

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

At 79, Miriam Blaustein Has No Shortage of Get-up-and-go

By Laura Holland

At 6 a.m. on dark winter mornings, Miriam Blaustein eats breakfast by candlelight and listens to a tape of Mozart's horn concertos given to her by a friend. At present, she shares her circular dining table with the likes of Edna St. Vincent Millay's poetry and Molly Ivins' political satire, as well as a children's book, *Mrs. Katz and Tush*. She never tires of the twinkling light show on the Bay Bridge as she watches San Francisco wake up to another day, from her second-floor apartment on Army Street.

"I get up early because I'm afraid I'll miss something," says the 79-year-old community activist, who's often been dubbed the "Mayor of Noe Valley."

For more than three decades, Blaustein has been a tireless champion of neighborhood causes. A founding member and past president of Friends of Noe Valley, she's been a leader in the fight to save the Noe Valley Library, and the chief defender of zoning laws that preserve residential integrity and affordable housing in the neighborhood. She loves getting together with kids of all ages ("intergenerational" is one of her favorite words), and was last year's recipient of the Golden Apple Award, given by James Lick Middle School's students and staff.

On a typical day, Blaustein spends an hour or two reading stories to kids at a local nursery school, helps a church collect clothing and household items for a homeless shelter, calls those neighbors whose cars are in imminent danger of being ticketed due to street-cleaning,



This month's column by Florence Holub (see page 23) is an ode to her photographer husband, Leo Holub, who was recently honored for over 30 years of artistic contributions to Stanford University. One of the couple's friends and house guests during the 1960s was world-renowned photographer Imogen Cunningham, shown here sitting on their back deck. PHOTO BY LEO HOLUB.

makes an impassioned statement before the Planning Commission, goes bargain-hunting at Cost Plus, and shares tea and sympathy with a host of friends who stop by or call for advice.

All of this activity is still routine for Blaustein, even though she suffered a mild stroke on Nov. 5, and has double vision as a result. Her vision is expected to improve, however, and any day now, you should see her traipsing up Sanchez Street to the Noe Valley Nursery School (where she has volunteered for the past six years), wearing a pair of \$300 "Space" shoes.

But Blaustein's shoes, which are molded to fit the shape of her feet, appear to be her only extravagance. She buys her clothes from factory outlets and second-hand stores, and the interior of her coin-

purse-size apartment reflects a lifetime of personal and political involvement, not of consumerism. Each quotation, photo, and piece of art on the walls is there because it has special meaning.

"I'm very much like my father, who was an iconoclast. He didn't believe in personal acquisition to make the mark. He enjoyed being a working man with calloused hands. My mother was one who made do. I'm still making do. It's out of habit," she says.

"We were non-religious Jews. The whole image of the Jews being a people who get rich is so false. Through my mother and father, I knew a lot of very poor Jews who were making do."

Retired from her last paying job for

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James Lick Goes Back to Square One

By Michael Eisman

James Lick Middle School, located at 1220 Noe St., "is a school with an unacceptably low level of student achievement," according to a proposal that recently won Lick a \$55,000 five-year "restructuring" grant from the California State Department of Education.

Seventy-five percent of Lick's 550 students have tested as "educationally disadvantaged," and 28 percent speak limited English. But Principal Mary Lou Mendoza Mason has high hopes that the new funding will help make the school "a place for kids that's effective, interesting, and motivating, so that they become better thinkers."

One of only two schools in San Francisco to be selected for the restructuring program (the other is Horace Mann), Lick is part of a statewide experiment aimed at revamping the traditional educational system. It is a system, says Mendoza Mason, that "everyone disparages. We're not happy that a lot of kids fail. Our goal is to turn it around."

This year's grant money (which was supposed to be \$110,000, but was whittled down to \$55,000, because of the state's budget crisis), will go toward providing better study aids for students, and, notes Mendoza Mason, "to assist and support things we're already doing," such as team-teaching and maintaining class size at 23 to 25 students (in comparison to the city's standard of 33).

In addition, Lick's part-time librarian will become full-time, and teachers will be compensated for extra duties.

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Bernie Ward Brings Fire & Brimstone To Air Waves

By Andrea Alban Gosline

KGO-Radio political reporter Bernie Ward knew his job was going well when the mayor of San Francisco demanded that he be fired.

"I had a glorious, ongoing feud with [ex-mayor] Art Agnos," Ward says with a smile. "He would say 'X' and I would say, 'Wait a minute! What about 'Y'? Politicians don't like to be challenged. I drove him nuts!"

When KGO (810 AM) asked Ward in 1990 to cover the city's political beat, the station was already familiar with his outspokenness and propensity for creating controversy.

Since 1985, Ward had hosted "Godtalk," a religious call-in show that airs Sunday mornings from 6 to 9 a.m. Ward, an impious Roman Catholic who carries on a brash, humorous banter with his



Bernie Ward is used to triggering the snake alarms at KGO Radio. Since 1985, he's hosted the irreverent weekly call-in show "Godtalk." And as an on-the-air reporter over the past two years, he's covered the East Bay Fire, the Los Angeles riots, and some hot staries emanating from San Francisco's City Hall. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS.

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LETTERS



Praise for Mission Police

Editor:
I am amazed and disgusted by the negative letters concerning CPOP Officer Lois Perillo.
My personal experience with the San Francisco Police Department has been positive, and I want to express my overdue thanks to the officers at Mission Station.
I have had to call 911 many times over the past year because of my neighbor's violent attacks on his wife. Yes, even in progressive Noe Valley, there are men who use women as punching bags. The police always came quickly, and handled the situation with the right combination of toughness and courtesy. I was always grateful to see them, and so was the woman who was being beaten.
Thank you, Mission police officers, for putting yourselves on the line for us.
Esther Berick
Twenty-fifth Street

Senior Center Gets a Lift

Editor, Friends:
Success!
The Noe Valley Senior Center, which holds lunches on weekdays at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., has won funding through the Salvation Army from the city's Commission on Aging, effective to July 1, 1993.
It was only done through the sustained support we received from this community. Our attendance and our spirits are up, up, up! Thank you all!
Marjorie Stern
Jersey Street

Simon

A Story by Alice Rogoff

Simon is French. Simon is a snail who lives in my garden.
I asked Simon how he got to San Francisco and Simon said:
"By the rain."
When it rains, Simon visits me in my little writing room. This room faces a garden with many vegetables and many snails. I sit in my chair with a pen and a piece of paper. Simon is very interested in my work. I ask him if he likes poetry.
He says, "I like only one kind of poetry."
"What kind?" I ask.
"Poems of romance," he says.
I read to Simon some Shakespearean sonnets. Simon wiggles his antenna back and forth. He is very happy.
Simon thinks that love is the most important part of our lives.
"Love and the earth," he says.
Says I, "You are a philosopher."
He says, "No, I am a snail."
"And me?" I say.
"You are a person," he says. "When a snail sees a big body with legs like a huge insect, the snail doesn't think about whether the monster writes poetry or stories; it places its head in its shell and hopes that the big feet will go someplace else."
"Also," says I, "when a person sees a snail, we don't wonder whether the snail thinks beautiful thoughts. We think, here's a snail who's eating my vegetables and here's a snail for my dinner!"
Simon becomes very agitated, but I say.
"Simon, Simon, we are friends, and I don't eat my friends," and Simon smiles like only a snail can smile.
Then Simon and I sit together and watch the rain fall on Noe Valley.

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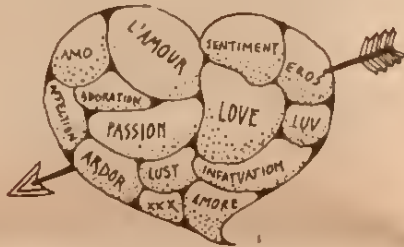
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Neighborhood Loses Two Cherished Residents

By Grace D'Anca

Two of Noe Valley's most vibrant spirits died within a day of each other last month.

Lenora "Toby" Galu, a longtime 22nd Street resident, passed away Jan. 7.

Arthur B. Uland, 76, of Castro Street, was killed Jan. 8, when a stolen vehicle collided with his car at 18th and South Van Ness. (Police said the other driver left the scene of the accident.)

Whether Toby Galu or Art Uland ever met is not certain, but they both touched the hearts of many Noe Valleyans, including my husband's family, the Salms, residents of the neighborhood for five generations.

A native Californian, Toby Galu was active in youth activities and in St. Philip's School PTA during the time her three sons attended, in the mid-'50s to early '60s. In later years, she became an avid bicyclist and walker. My mother-in-law, Lois Salm, accompanied Toby on dozens of lengthy jaunts from Noe Valley to all corners of San Francisco.

Toby will always be remembered by the Salm family—particularly those in her children's generation—for keeping her door open, and for sharing with love and humor the traumas and triumphs of raising kids in San Francisco.

Toby is survived by her husband, Dominic Galu; two sons and daughters-in-law, Dominic Thomas Jr. and Joanne Galu, and Joseph Errol and Diane Galu; grandchildren Michael, Angela, Jeremy, Anthony, and Andrew; and other immediate family and friends. Her son Philip Michael Galu died in the mid-1960s.

She was remembered at a service at St. Philip's Church on Jan. 16. Friends can send memorials in her honor to the Visiting Nurses Association and Hospice, 1390 Market St., Suite 510, San Francisco, CA 94102, or to the American Cancer Society.

Art Uland was the personification of energy and enthusiasm. As a self-employed general contractor for the past 20 years, Art was always busy helping people. For many years he played a key role in putting up the Christmas decorations on 24th Street.

Art was well loved by Noe Valley youth for his involvement in their sports activities—not just those of his two sons, but of all their friends.

Art Uland was born in the Marina District in 1917. At the age of 6, he moved with his family to a dairy ranch outside Petaluma. He graduated from Tomales High School in 1937, then attended Marin Junior College. He joined the Army Air Corps in 1942, and became a flight engineer on B-17 bombers.

During World War II, Art met Mary Lou McAchren of Johnstown, Pa. Art and Mary Lou, then a W.A.C. in the Army Air Corps and a dancer with Special Services, were married in 1943. After the war ended, they came to San Francisco, settled in Noe Valley, and raised two sons, Mike and Rick.

Prior to becoming a self-employed general and electrical contractor in 1976, Art worked for Matson Aviation, Greyhound Bus Lines, and as a supervising engineer at a shade manufacturing company.

Art is survived by his wife, Mary Lou; sons Michael T. and Richard J. Uland; daughter-in-law Constance H. (Mrs. Michael T. Uland); and numerous friends and relatives.

After a funeral mass at St. Philip's Church, Art Uland was interred at Golden Gate National Cemetery on Jan. 12. □



Man with AIDS Jumps To His Death On Castro St.

By Grace D'Anca

Michael Cogan, 35, died the afternoon of Friday, Jan. 15, after apparently jumping from his third-floor apartment window at 1246 Castro St.

According to Patrol Officer Mark Brandenburg, of Mission Station, Cogan had called the police minutes before the incident, saying that he believed someone was coming over to his apartment to kill him. When Brandenburg arrived, paramedics were administering CPR to Cogan on the sidewalk near the corner of 24th and Castro. At 2:59 p.m., they pronounced him dead.

Police found all the doors and windows in Cogan's apartment locked from the inside, except for a south window, from which they surmised Cogan jumped 35 feet to his death.

Alan Christopher, the weekend property manager at RMC Management Group, which owns the building Cogan lived in, became a friend of Cogan's. Christopher told the *Voice* that Cogan had AIDS and was distraught over his prognosis.

He said Cogan, a visual artist, had moved to San Francisco from Washington, D.C., a year ago. He supported himself with his art work, and had held two art shows within the past year.

"It's too bad that people will learn about Michael this way," Christopher said. "Michael was a great person, he had a good sense of humor, and he was a fine artist."

"One of my favorites [of his pieces] is called 'Forever.' It's a painting of two friends holding hands and walking together down the yellow brick road." □



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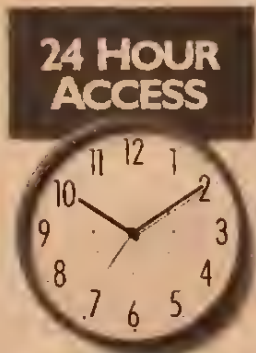
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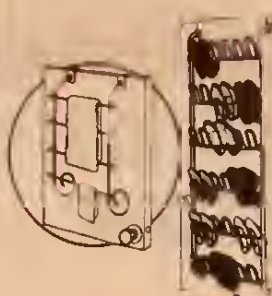


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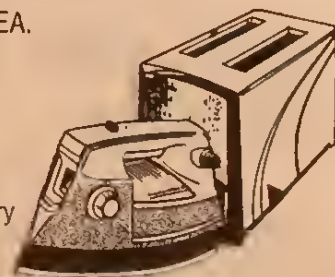
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Miriam's Day Starts at the Crack of Dawn

Continued from Page 1

over a decade, Blaustein also credits her Russian-immigrant parents with instilling in her an appreciation of nature and simplicity. "My parents instinctively felt that the natural way of doing things is healthier, better, and more rewarding than buying all the stuff that's laid on you by the society we're living in."

Blaustein was born and raised in Rochester, N.Y. Due to her family's poverty, she went to a grammar school for underprivileged children.

The school combined two or three grade levels into one classroom, and students knew their teachers well. A former hunting lodge on the outskirts of town, the schoolhouse had open windows from floor to ceiling.

"In the winter those windows were still wide open, and the snow would come in, and we would wear long felt hip boots and jackets that were provided somehow," she says. She had to traverse the city by streetcar to get to and from school, but along with her lessons she was given a hot breakfast and lunch each day. "I was a very skinny kid," she recalls, "and got paid a nickel for drinking a glass of milk, and a dime for an egg."

Blaustein has fond memories of her three teachers. "One was interested in nature, and we were on the edge of a wood, so we got all that. One was interested in photography, and it was from him that I learned to make a pinhole camera and develop film. (Photography later became one of my careers.) The other teacher was interested more in academics, but we learned music from her." Blaustein still recalls some of the tunes they used to play, on what was then a new crank Victrola.

After graduating from high school, Blaustein studied photography in Rochester and soon began working as a portrait photographer. In her initial job interview, her employer asked why she wanted to pursue photography. "I said I was interested in the art of photography, a very lofty ideal, and he let me know right off that he was not interested in the art of photography. He was interested in the art of making money. But because it was the Depression, I took the job, and I worked in it for quite a long time."

Blaustein left her job in 1935, and decided to go to what was then Palestine and be a farmer on a kibbutz. She hitchhiked to a training farm in Trenton, N.J., where city slickers learned to live off the land. "Rutgers University people would show us when to plant and when to harvest. It was an incredible experience. I loved getting my hands dirty," she says.

When there was no work to be done on the training farm, Blaustein and other students hired themselves out to neighborhood farmers for 10 cents an hour. It was on the farm that she met her husband-to-be, Jerome Blaustein, who came from a wealthy Baltimore family.

"I called him Yakov, which is a Hebrew name for Jerome," she says. "He graduated from Carlisle School of Law in the late '20s, and was a real F. Scott Fitzgerald type, you know, the roadster with a raccoon coat, which was foreign to me. Here he was on the farm, and he was looked at as kind of an odd guy because he wrote poetry."

Jerome talked Blaustein out of going to Palestine. They left the farm in 1936, got married, and moved "back into the mainstream." But their life in the mainstream did not last long. Although he suffered from a genetic heart condition, Jerome talked his way into the Army during World War II because he felt he had to fight Hitler. His heart condition worsened while he was in the service, however. He was discharged, and spent most of the next nine years flat on his back.

The Blausteins' daughter, Louise, was born in New York in 1944. Then, partly



Before becoming Noe Valley's best-known grassroots activist, Miriam Blaustein worked on a kibbutz and had a career as a portrait photographer. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD.

because Jerome dreamed of writing a book about California, and partly because of a housing shortage, they moved to an apartment on the beach in Santa Monica, where Blaustein worked odd jobs and nursed her ailing husband until he died in 1951.

At the age of 38, the widowed Blaustein and her 7-year-old daughter moved back to Rochester "because I had only \$9 left. We were just that strapped. I sold my refrigerator for transportation, and lived with my mother, who by that time was also a widow," she recalls.

Blaustein got a job with a law book publisher. She also worked summers as a counselor at what would now be called a survival school for young people. Thus, she was able to work off her daughter's tuition.

At the school, recalls Blaustein, they did all kinds of camping, including portage trips. "Portage is when you put all your belongings in a canoe and you can go across bodies of water like shallow lakes. You carry the canoe with your belongings, almost like head gear. It's very big in the Adirondacks, and it's really roughing it." The most wonderful thing about camping, she adds, is that you have to improvise with what's immediately around you, taking care not to destroy the environment.

When Blaustein had the opportunity to transfer to the San Francisco branch of the publishing firm in 1955, she accepted the job, but took her time getting here. She and Louise camped across the country in an old Chrysler. "It was a real adventure," she says. "In those days you

made a bedroll; not everybody had a sleeping bag."

Although her mother was already living in southern California with Blaustein's sister, the "fake gingerbread-style" architecture, manicured lawns, and overwhelming influence of the entertainment industry deterred Blaustein from settling near her family. She dropped Louise off to visit the relatives, and high-tailed it up Highway 1 to San Francisco, even though she'd promised her family she would avoid the route because of its fog and winding roadway.

"I wanted to be by the ocean because I was an inlander. And even though I had spent time in Santa Monica, [the coast] was still new and wonderful. One of the things for good or bad in my character is that I'm an adventurer. I never want to do things the way everybody else does them," she says.

After she found a place to rent in the Richmond District, she sent for Louise, and there they remained until her daughter, who wanted a change of lifestyle, moved to the East Bay to live with friends and work her way through college.

"I'm amused, in a way, that my daughter, who was exposed to all this camping, now hates a picnic, never mind camping! She hates anything that is not 'civilized.' I always felt, and still do, that you can only collect yourself when you drop civilization and get your hands into clean dirt. Unfortunately, now we've learned that much of the dirt we supposed was clean is polluted!"

When Blaustein realized her daughter was becoming a "yuppie" and not the

sort of progressive leftist she had envisioned, she says she asked herself "what many people ask: 'What did I do wrong?'" But she tried not to lose heart. One of her favorite tapes is *Songs for Weary Parents*, by Nancy White, a Canadian political satirist who has a radio show on KALW. One of the songs is called "Daughters of Feminists." Blaustein laughs and sings along with the lyrics: "Daughters of feminists think that a princess is what they are destined to be. How do they get so girlic, how come they want a dolly? Why does it start so early? Who does she idolize? Cinderella!"

Shortly after Louise graduated from high school in 1961, but before she charted her own less radical course, she did join her mother on a freighter trip—complete with a ride through the Panama Canal—to Israel. They stayed on a kibbutz for one year, where Blaustein did the ironing in the laundry, and Louise worked in the fields and helped with the children.

"I still have stars in my eyes about that experience, because of the feeling of community," says Blaustein. "There isn't the hierarchy that we know in the workplace here. The man in charge of the cow barn who shoveled cow manure most of his work day was a specialist on a certain period of J.S. Bach's life. People wrote to him from all over the world. He was a German refugee and had studied music in Germany, but he was very happy doing his job because there was no stigma. Everyone had a job to do to contribute to the whole."

In 1971, when Blaustein had to leave her \$60 a month Richmond District abode, a friend who lived on Valley Street suggested she check out a vacant apartment on the hill at Noe and Army streets. "I thought it was going to be temporary, but I'm still here," muses Blaustein. "I've never owned a home, so I have a special feeling for renters, who are 70 percent of the people living in San Francisco."

On her first Saturday morning stroll down 24th Street, Blaustein saw a "little old lady with a shopping cart" open the door of the dime store and call out to someone who worked there. "I have cookies for your coffee break!" Blaustein says she immediately thought, This is where I belong. It's a neighborhood. People are looking after each other. "And I've been fighting ever since," she adds, "to keep it a neighborhood."

She expresses dismay that several businesses which are "more concerned with making money than making community" have infiltrated the shopping district. But she still finds Noe Valley to be one of the last remaining San Francisco neighborhoods where people can develop a sense of community beyond that of immediate family.

Of course, while her work with such groups as San Francisco Tomorrow, the Gray Panthers, Friends of Noe Valley, and the Noe Valley Nursery School—not to mention her world travels, including a camping trip to Iceland—have kept her very busy over the years, Blaustein does sometimes miss the companionship her husband once provided.

"I've had other opportunities," she says, "but as I've grown older, I've decided there are virtues in living alone—like this apartment. If I don't get it picked up, it's okay. It's only me. Only I have to live in it. All these piles of paper represent different interests, and I'm free to be interested in whatever I wish. I'm very fussy about cleanliness, but not about tidiness."

Blaustein adds that she doesn't mind getting old, because she's had a very rich life, and continues to be open to adventure. She doesn't see any possibility of going camping in the next few weeks, but expects to do so again.

Her advice to those who have not lived quite so long is to maintain a sense of humor, surround yourself with young children ("What's in their hearts is on their tongues"), be tolerant of others, and realize you haven't got all the answers.

"I'm still learning," she declares, "and I intend to keep on learning for the rest of my life." □

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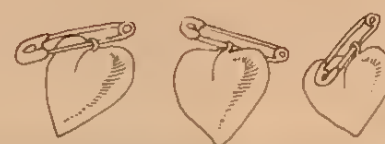
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James Lick Gets Ready For a Makeover

Continued from Page 1

But the real tool for change, says Mendoza Mason, will be the newly constituted "restructuring council," a group of teachers, parents, administrators, and students who will have a sweeping mandate to make changes at the school. The 20-member council, which began meeting last year, will not only have the authority to revise or do away with the present grading system, curriculum, class levels, and teaching methods, but will supervise hiring and plant maintenance, as well as recommend special workshops for staff and students.

Mendoza Mason underscores the council's new leadership role. "They're the ones who will set direction, long-range goals, approve policy, budget—everything we do."

Judy Giampaoli, a counselor at Lick, agrees that the formation of the council represents "a paradigm shift in power" at Lick, and that parents and teachers will have a larger share in determining "who is responsible for the school being successful, in a conscious way."

Committees have already been formed to make recommendations on issues ranging from motivation and discipline, to parent participation and racial harmony. And bylaws are being drafted, says Mendoza Mason, to use "as a backup, so that we don't get stuck."

So far, the council has approved plans for a staff development workshop and a Kids' Day, to be held Feb. 11, "to teach kids how to cooperate," says Lick history teacher Susan Gold.

B. J. Martin, a resource teacher and council member, emphasizes the importance of parent input into the restructuring



In Rebecca Villones' sixth-grade class at James Lick School, students such as Andy Lio (left) and Cleavon Foster study in groups, with guidance from the teacher. In the future, they may participate in even more novel classroom arrangements—now that the school has launched a five-year "restructuring" process, in order to boost academic achievement. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

ing program. "Parents contribute so much. . . . Many of them are highly skilled and a great addition to what we're doing."

One parent on the council, Paul Miller, says he hopes it will "function like a mini school board." He also expects it to promote "greater personal contact between students and teachers," which he sees as

"a major project." Miller has two children enrolled at Lick, a sixth-grader and an eighth-grader, and is the sixth-grade parent representative on the council.

Another council member, 12-year-old Robinette Williams, hopes such ideas as "newer encyclopedias, a student newspaper, and a grievance procedure for stu-

dents" will be considered by the council. Williams is the eighth-grade student president.

Although the task of overhauling James Lick Middle School may seem daunting, Mendoza Mason remains optimistic that the lofty goals of the restructuring program can be realized.

"We need to change," she says, "in order to make education more productive and successful." □

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A Few Commandments from the Host of KGO Radio's 'Godtalk'

Continued from Page 1

listeners, had made "Godtalk" one of KGO's most popular shows.

So it was no surprise that the station's news director backed Ward in his feisty exchange with Agnos: "We knew it was going to be interesting when we hired Bernie, and we were right!"

Ward refuses to write puff pieces no matter what the consequences, and never hesitates to uncover the dirt at City Hall.

"The trouble is that too many reporters want to be able to call up City Hall and get a quote for a story that they're doing. My idea is kind of like I. F. Stone's: I don't want to eat with them [politicians], drink with them, or socialize with them. I don't want to know them or be friends with them."

Ward just wants to break the big story, and doesn't mind sticking his neck out to do so.

Soon after the first flames engulfed the East Bay Hills in October 1991, for instance, Ward was driving over the orange cones on Highway 24, which was closed to traffic. He avoided arrest by an Oakland policeman by jumping on a San Francisco fire rig that was heading up Broadway Terrace. Since he knew the six firefighters, he was welcomed aboard, he says.

When they hooked up the fire hose to the hydrant, there was no water. "That was my first report on the air: 'There is no water and the place is going up.'"

"We started walking up a little further and got trapped twice by the fire. My reporter's bag and tape recorder burned and melted. All of a sudden, seven houses that were completely intact blew up. What I didn't realize was that fire sucks up all the oxygen. I couldn't breathe." A firefighter pulled Ward back.

When asked what kept him going in the face of grave danger, he replies, "All you want to do is get the story, and you want to get farther into it. You want to get into the fire. You don't give death a second thought."

His brother, Brendan Ward, a lieutenant in the San Francisco Fire Department, was concerned, however. He heard Ward's radio reports and, although he was off duty, put on his uniform and drove to Oakland to protect him from trouble. "I look over and there he is standing there, and he stayed with me into the next morning. It was the most amazing thing in the world. He saved me a couple of times from going into places that I shouldn't have gone," says Ward, his eyes becoming teary.

"We ended up walking all the way to

the top of Broadway Terrace at one in the morning, an incredibly long hike. We were hearing some reports on the radio that the fire was dying down, but there was fire everywhere. It was like Armageddon." Ward told KGO's listeners over his cellular phone: "If you had to predict what the end of the world would look like, this is it."

His news team won the national Bill Stout Award from the Associated Press for their courageous coverage of the East Bay Fire.

Six months later, five Los Angeles police officers were acquitted for the beating of a motorist named Rodney King, sparking violent riots in South Central Los Angeles. Ward was sent to cover the story. For the next 37 hours he was on the air every 10 to 15 minutes, broadcasting reports about the chaos that reigned throughout the city.

To the chagrin of his producer, Ward insisted that his crew cover the story from the streets, because the command post was too remote from the action. As they drove through L.A., he says, "people were yelling at us and threatening us. We didn't stop at anything, because if you stopped, you were in trouble."

Ward interviewed looters, asking them how they felt "taking the stuff." One answer in particular made an impression on him for its pitiful irony: "It's the only store in the area. It's going to be closed for weeks. I've got children. I've got to get whatever I can to hold me over for a while."

Forty-one-year-old Ward loves to talk about his adventures, and he does so animatedly over lunch at Panos', his favorite Noe Valley restaurant.

He arrived at the interview toting one of his four young children, whose name he would not divulge. Despite, or perhaps because of his public persona, he is fiercely protective of his family's privacy. He chose to meet at a restaurant rather than at his home, and asked the *Voice* not to print the name of the Noe Valley street where he has lived since July.

Ward is a fourth-generation San Franciscan who grew up listening to talk radio on KGO and thinking, "Geez, what a great idea to be paid to talk!" But it would be many years before he spoke his first words on the air.

After college graduation, he taught grammar school, and later took his master's degree in theological studies at the Franciscan School of Theology in Berkeley. In 1981 he followed his wife, Colleen, to Washington, D.C., where she attended medical school, and he landed a job

teaching sex education and theology at Georgetown Prep, "one of those elite schools like the one the Clintons are sending Chelsea to," he remarks.

Excited to be living in the nation's capital and wanting to learn something about politics, he tried to volunteer in a congressional office, but no one had any openings until he knocked on Barbara Boxer's door. She had just recently been elected to Congress and needed help. After several months of volunteering, Ward moved into a paid position and within a year became Boxer's chief legislative assistant.

By the time he left Washington, Ward notes, he had become "an expert on Pentagon procurement. I found the famous \$7,000 coffee pot [by sneaking onto Travis Air Force Base]. It made national news."

When Colleen was accepted at Stanford University for her internship, the family moved back to California, where Ward ran a business trade association for three years. He fortuitously met Russ Coughlin, a talk show host for KGO, and expressed an interest in having his own soapbox. Coughlin helped him get an interview, and although "KGO doesn't hire virgins," Ward says, they apparently made an exception in his case, and offered him the Sunday morning call-in show.

"Godtalk," which Ward describes as "the only religious show in America where you're not allowed to quote the Bible," was a hit from the start and now has 100,000 listeners. The show appeals not only to people with traditional religious affiliations, but also to "a tremendous number of witches, atheists, and humanists," according to Ward.

He likes "to poke fun at the whole thing [religion]. We have our own church, the Church of the Holy Doughnut, because the basis of our religion is dough. And Minnesota Fats is our patron saint."

Recently, Ward's success with "Godtalk" won him an additional talk show assignment. In January, KGO asked him to fill in for departing host Michael Krasny in the Monday through Friday, 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., late-night slot. He hopes that he will be offered the show permanently in February.

Ward says he has more fun as a talk show host and appreciates the creative freedom the format allows, but he also loves being a fact-finding reporter. "I like being on the streets. It has taught me a lot. Every talk show host should have to be a reporter."

According to Ward, almost every police officer, firefighter, and politician in the city knows him, and he loves that. When asked in jest whether he planned to become San Francisco's next mayor, he admitted to having given the notion some thought.

"I would run, and I would be a citizen mayor, but, unlike Jordan, I know how the city runs. I've lived in City Hall all my life. I know what you have to do to get things done." He picked up much of his political savvy from his father, who was a San Francisco deputy city attorney, a Sacramento lobbyist, and an executive officer of Superior Court, for a combined total of 38 years.

The threat of offending a special interest group, Ward maintains, would not stop him from reprimanding those who try to "hold up progress for the city."

If he were mayor, he says emphatically, he would tell Potrero Hill residents who oppose the new Giants' stadium, "That's very nice of you to do that, but, by the way, there will be no city services in your neighborhood for a while. We have to work together as a city."

Ward wants to make a positive impact on the lives of San Franciscans. In the past three years, he has raised close to \$300,000 from his listeners at Thanksgiving, and donated the money to Bay Area charities that feed the hungry.

"One woman sent two quarters, saying, 'I wish it could be more.' Some said, 'I was homeless once, and I know what it's like, so I want to help.'" Ward says he is uplifted by the tremendous response each year.

So how does this host of two talk shows, political news reporter, people's advocate, and aspiring politician juggle his hectic work life with home and family?

"I don't," Ward says sheepishly. "I am not a great parent. I love my children and I think they love me, but if it wasn't for their mother, they would be in mismatched clothes and would never get to school!"

Fortunately, a recent change in his work schedule now allows him to spend more time at home in Noe Valley. "I've been using the sensitive side of myself more. I'm getting better at spending time with my kids."

And he has been enjoying exploring his new neighborhood. He exclaims over the wonderful weather, the friendly residents, and how he can walk to all the shops.

And then there's Drewes Meat Market on Church Street, "the greatest secret in the entire city."

"Parking is our only problem," he attests. "that and the fact that you can never get into Chloe's [a Church Street cafe]." He recites his version of the old Yogi Berra line: "Nobody goes to Chloe's anymore because it's too crowded!"

With that, he looks at his watch and jumps up quickly.

"Wow! I'd better get running," his distinctive, gravelly voice booms. The host of "Godtalk" then dashes off to read his daily quota of periodicals and newspapers, in preparation for his 10 p.m. talk show. □

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The Voice Asks a Therapist: Can Familiarity Breed Romance?

By Jane Underwood

In homage to Valentine's Day, the *Voice* decided to pick the brain of one of our local couples therapists, Norman Hering.

Hering works out of an office at Church and 23rd streets, and uses a method known as "imago relationship therapy" with his clients. (If you're curious about this form of therapy, Hering suggests you check out *Getting the Love You Want*, a book by Harville Hendrix.)

Here's what Hering had to say on the subject of romance.

Voice: *Is it realistic to hope to keep romance alive in a long-term relationship?*

Hering: Yes, but it takes work, it does take work. It's really important to put aside what the media says romance is. I think that's the thing that a lot of people get hung up on—the images that are shot through the media.

Voice: *Such as?*

Hering: Oh, you know. I see these billboards that say if you drink Johnny Walker Black, you can have all the women you ever wanted. Or you can have these hot women on the beach in little bikinis.

There's a lot of that stuff, the "sex sells" approach. And there's a lot of that in [our expectations of] romance. Advertising tends to take the beginning part of a relationship, the romantic part, and act as if that's what the relationship should always be. And that's not realistic. I think that's a stage of a relationship, the beginning of it. But it changes.

Voice: *So, in a way, you're saying that it's not reasonable to hope to keep romance alive.*

Hering: No, I think it's possible, but it has to do with how you think about romance.

Voice: *When I say romance, I'm thinking of some of the stereotypical things that everyone thinks of, say, when Valentine's Day comes around—the magical images, things like being given flowers, and dancing till dawn—scenes and moods that aren't part of the ordinary drudgery of daily life.*

Hering: Well, a lot of that happens when people really don't know who they're

with. That's sort of the ultimate romance. You really don't know this person. What you see is an image of what you want. In my mind, anyway. From a therapy point of view, you're seeing an image that you project, an image that you want.

When I look at a couple, I think, what do they really need? What are they really asking for? Some of them are just so bored and so bogged down in the drudgery—they just don't get any time to themselves—they don't get to have a relation-

that make them feel loved and cared for. And then I say okay, between now and the next time I see you, I want you to pick three of these things, and do them for your partner.

And the paradox is that when you do for your partner, you begin to feel better about [what you receive in] the relationship, even though you're the one that's doing. You're thinking, I want, I want, I want, but this turns it around, and you have to push beyond your own needs, and

But once you go through that stage in a relationship, you can recapture some of the feeling of it, but you can't go back to it.

Voice: *Are there certain answers that people seem to come up with over and over, when they fill in the blank in that sentence?*

Hering: Oh yes. A lot of them are real simple things, like, "when you make dinner for me," or "when you greet me in the



An intimate dinner by firelight may be one way to rekindle the romance in a long-term relationship. PHOTO BY JOEL ABRAMSON

ship anymore, especially if they have kids. So there is the need to work romance back into the relationship.

Voice: *And how do you suggest they do that?*

Hering: There's this little exercise I give to couples, where I have them write: "I feel cared for and loved when you..." And they complete the sentence.

And then they fill in a list of things, the specific behaviors that the partner does

try to give your partner something that he or she wants. And by doing that, you begin to feel better about the relationship. I know that from my own experience in my own marriage.

Voice: *You don't think people feel resentful that they're giving too much?*

Hering: Yeah, people do balk a little. They think it's phony, they think it's hokey, because they want that same illusory romance that you were talking about.

hallway when I come in from work," or "when you leave the light on for me at night," or "when you rub my shoulders for me for a few minutes."

It's remembering the things that you did for each other in the beginning of the relationship, the things that you've forgotten about.

And that's the real romancing. □



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Steve Ratto is the Community Police On Patrol (CPOP) officer for upper Noe Valley (from Sanchez and Army to Mission and 30th). His number at Ingleside Station is 333-3433.

POLICE BEAT

There were three more robberies in December, with the last one being that of a cab driver. The cab driver had picked up two passengers, and as he was dropping them off at 30th and Sanchez, they robbed him.

All this bad news is followed by some good news.

Two suspects have been arrested in connection with several robberies occurring this fall. The arrest came after two plainclothes officers spotted the suspects entering a residence. After a short chase and an exchange of gunfire, the suspects were taken into custody.

The level of residential burglaries and stolen autos was about the same for the months of November and December. And to tell you the truth, I don't see it getting better any time soon. One factor that accounts for an increase in crime is the lack of jail space in San Francisco. With jail overcrowding, the sheriff is forced to let offenders out early. And instead of one-year terms, these offenders sometimes get three months.

Another factor is the dwindling number of police officers. With only one Police Academy class scheduled to graduate last month, we don't see another class until late 1993 or 1994.

I now would like to clear up something I wrote about in my December column. I told you about an aggressive panhandling suspect who preys on young women

in the Church and 29th Street area. I mentioned Veteran's Liquor Store, 1710 Church St., as one of the spots where he buys beer.

I didn't mean to imply that Veteran's sells only to drunks. Mike Agil, who owns Veteran's, has done a great job of turning around the store. He has added outside lighting, which brightens up Church Street, making it safer for shoppers. Mike also has a very good relationship with his customers and is always very friendly.

I now would like to thank all my readers and friends in Noe Valley. For personal reasons, I am leaving the CPOP program in mid-February, and this will be my last article for the *Voice*.

However, I will not be leaving the police force, but will return to radio car patrol for all Ingleside Station precincts. I'm sure my new assignment will occasionally bring me into Noe Valley, so I promise to stay in touch. Rest assured, also, that there will be a CPOP replacement for me in upper Noe Valley who will continue to serve you. (Fifteen people have already put in a request for the job.)

In my two years of walking the beat, I've met some very good people. This has been a very good experience for me, and I think all San Francisco police officers should go through it. Goodbye and good luck! □

Mission CPOP Officer Lois Perillo covers a beat that stretches from 21st and Grand View to Army and Valencia. To reach her, or partner Lorraine Lombardo, call 647-2767.



PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

Upper Noe Will See a New Face on the Beat This March

By Officer Steve Ratto

I first want to wish everyone a happy New Year. I hope that your Christmas was a safe and joyous one. Now on to Noe Valley crime news for the past few months.

November started off on a sour note for Twin Peaks Pizza, located on Church near 29th. On Nov. 5 at about 9:30 p.m., the restaurant was held up by two suspects, one armed with a shotgun. The suspects, one white and the other a black male, took the cash register, which contained the night's receipts. Both suspects fled into the night, traveling westbound on 29th Street toward Sanchez.

The second robbery—which was much more serious, due to the injuries suffered by the victims—took place at 27th and Sanchez at about 6 p.m. on Nov. 24. Two women were walking home when a 1984 Honda Accord, gray in color with body damage to the driver's side, pulled up alongside. Three men exited the vehicle and began to assault the women. After taking their money, the suspects fled in the Honda. The two women received cuts and abrasions to their faces, and both were treated by a city ambulance. At press time, no arrests had been made in this case.

Merchants Hotline Is Working Well

By Officer Lois Perillo

During December, the rate of major crimes within my Noe Valley beat held steady, while commercial thefts dropped and auto break-ins rose. January brought a continued drop in shoplifting incidents and a reduction in auto break-ins, and there were no robberies reported by mid-month.

Over the holiday season, shoplifts in Noe Valley—both petty and grand theft—were at their lowest rate since I began riding the 24th Street beat three years ago. Due primarily to the local merchants' commitment to help each other by using the "Noe News," a crime-alert phone chain, reported thefts plummeted to two in December and two in January.

The way "Noe News" functions is: any employee (of the 70 participating merchants) who spots someone ripping off merchandise jots down a physical description of the culprit, which is then speedily shared with the other merchants.

One such alert allowed Ariana Barrett of the Pantry to recognize and follow a shoplifter, who had just taken something from Radio Shack, to 24th and Noe, where she attempted to board a Muni bus with her booty. Keeping a safe distance,

Continued on Page 15

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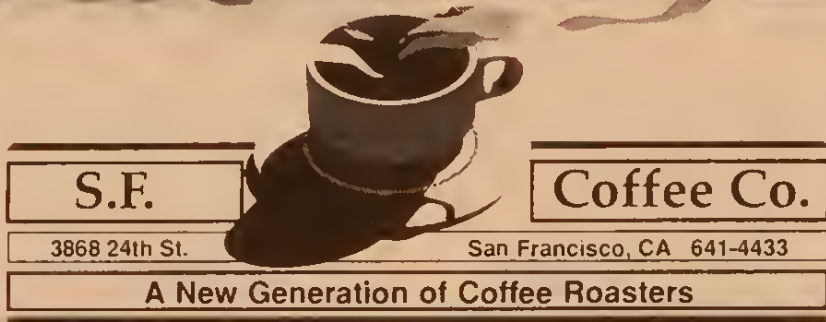
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POLICE BEAT

Ariana watched as the driver expelled the woman for not paying bus fare. The suspect exited the bus, leaving behind the stolen merchandise, which Ariana then collected and returned to Radio Shack. A final touch to this incident was that an international tourist snapped a photo of the suspect, which she gave to Radio Shack's manager for future reference.

After 2½ years of heading the "Noe News" phone tree, the Pantry has turned over the job to Printmasters, the office supplies store which also donates the cost of printing the suspect description pads that workers use. The crime-alert list also has a high-tech appearance, thanks to Dan Gamaldi at Cradle of the Sun, who tired of my hand-lettered version and generated a new list from his computer.

This venture, which was launched over 10 years ago by the former owner of Col-orcrane along with 12 other merchants, has grown into an important community resource. (I've also used it to locate missing people.)

As for the crime alert's drawbacks, I've heard the "ist" complaint, i.e., that suspect descriptions unfairly target a specific race or sex. However, I encourage all workers to watch people's behavior and to activate the alert ONLY when they personally see a crime, or when they've seen a prior crime committed and the same suspect has returned. "Suspicious people," no matter what their race, sex, or shoe size, shall NOT be reported to the crime alert, unless the reportee actually saw them commit a crime. Printmasters has these guidelines, and will refer any disputes to me.

My thanks to the crew at the Pantry—including Harriet, Jill, Mitch, Ariana, Ellen, Chris, Andrea et al—for your help and patience. My salute to the gang at Printmasters, including Chris, Colleen, and Michael, for taking the lead.

Kudos to all the participants for working together.

Robbery Review: At least five robberies occurred within Noe Valley during December.

On Dec. 1 at 9:15 p.m., a 44-year-old woman was walking on Church near 22nd Street when an unseen man grabbed her, put a "hard object," possibly a gun, to the back of her head, and forced her to the ground. The woman was robbed of her purse and reported no physical injuries.

The second robbery occurred on Dec. 11 at 10:30 p.m. As a 37-year-old woman parked her car on the 400 block of Hill Street, she noticed another car double-

parked nearby with its lights on. As she readied to exit, two men approached on either side of the car, and one pointed a handgun at her, demanding she open the door. She complied, and the suspects robbed her of her purse and wrapped packages. Both men ran north on Noe Street. The double-parked car had left before the robbery concluded.

While walking south on the 1000 block of Church Street on Dec. 13 at 7:40 p.m., a 34-year-old man was pushed to the ground by a suspect who approached from behind. The targeted man fainted and awoke to find that his wallet was still in his pants pocket, but his keys and eyeglasses had been stolen.

A woman in her 20s was the target of a robber who confronted her with a gun as she was depositing a check at the Bank of America ATM at 24th and Castro on Dec. 17 at 10 p.m. The woman filed a claim through the bank and was reimbursed.

In the fifth robbery, two men in their 20s entered their parked car on Noe near 20th Street and were approached by two male suspects wielding "12-inch knives." With the car windows apparently open, the suspects demanded money and the targeted men complied. The suspects fled in a maroon Ford Escort.

In each of the above incidents, the victims escaped serious physical harm. However, they very possibly suffered emotional fallout. Often when a person is the victim of a violent crime, he or she may experience depression, withdrawal, anger, loss of appetite, amnesia, or any number of other disturbing symptoms. The best immediate first-aid is a sympathetic ear from friends and family. But if the symptoms persist, professional counseling may be called for. (Call 387-5100 for community mental health information and referral.)

Carjacker Makes Stop in Noe Valley. Those of you who saw police lights flashing at 24th and Church around 10:30 p.m. on Jan. 3 witnessed one phase of a carjacking that began earlier at Haight and Stanyan streets.

Darryl Brown, 18, forced his way into an unlocked and occupied car in the Haight Street McDonald's parking lot. After telling the car's three occupants that he had a gun, Brown ordered the driver to "cruise." The 18-year-old driver went to 24th and Church to get marijuana for the suspect, where he and the two

other initial occupants exited the car. Brown fled in the stolen car, but was spotted by Potrero police officers, who followed him to Pine and Larkin, where he was arrested. Brown was charged with kidnapping, robbery, grand theft auto, aggravated assault, and seven vehicle code violations.

More Break-ins: There were six residential burglaries during December and one window-break burglary of Walgreens at 1333 Castro St. Since there have been about six window smashes at Walgreens within as many months, the store is considering installing polycarbonate windows or metal curtains.

Midway through January, there was one residential burglary and one attempted pry entry to a rear restaurant door.

On the Panhandling Front: In November, you read about James Reza, the bearded, long-haired man with soft brown eyes who usually inhabits the 3900 block of 24th Street selling the Homeless Coalition's *Street Sheet*.

Lee Baxter is the woman with shoulder-length blond hair who frequently sells the same newspaper near the Wells Fargo ATM.

The bearded man pushing the Bell Market shopping cart (yes, with their permission) through the streets, recycling bottles and cans, is Jessie Russo.

Rick Greathouse, with a fair, often flushed complexion and blue eyes, spends time near the First Baptist Church on 24th Street. (Greathouse is a veteran, so I have referred him to Swords to Plowshares, an organization that supports the vet via counseling and job finding.)

The man who is frequently passed out in a barely functional wheelchair is James Hensley of West Virginia. He has been in the city about eight months, and has made several trips to S.F. General for treatment.

Although all of the above people panhandle or sell the *Street Sheet* on 24th Street, none of them has aggressively asked for money, as far as I know. They offer a passerby the option of giving or not giving. And whether their presence is aesthetically pleasing to pedestrians is of no matter, since panhandling is currently protected under the Constitution as a form of freedom of expression.

What I may and do regulate is the "time, place, and manner" of any person or organization that chooses to exercise

that constitutional right—which means I may prevent a person who is collecting signatures for a ballot initiative (most of whom are paid per signature) from setting up in an active loading zone or across from a store or residence entry.

I also may prevent a panhandler from standing or sitting in an entry or sitting across a sidewalk. I use the existing laws that govern charitable solicitors and peddlers as a guide to maintain consistency in treatment of all who elect to use public space, whether panhandler or politico.

The recently passed "aggressive panhandling" law, Section 120.1 of the Municipal Police Code, prohibits aggressive soliciting involving harassment or hounding of citizens for money or anything of value in all public places (whether publicly or privately owned). "Harassment or hounding" occurs when the panhandler (1) closely follows the citizens (within six feet), and (2) requests money or an item of value AFTER the citizen has verbally expressed or physically implied that s/he does not want to give.

A violation of this section requires a targeted person or witness to sign a complaint, or a police officer to observe the violation. This is a misdemeanor offense, which means the violator may be cited and released, with identification. If the offense is repeated or the offender indicates a likelihood to immediately repeat the offense, s/he may be booked.

I don't anticipate that any of Noe Valley's current panhandlers will start hounding or harassing others for money. Yet I realize that eventually someone will aggressively panhandle on the beat, leading to my applying the new law. I also know the A.C.L.U. is poised to challenge the law, as is the Coalition on the Homeless.

There are no quick fixes to the issue of panhandling, as it relates to homelessness. Perhaps Noe Valley should take a look at Castro Cares, a food and product voucher program based on the Berkeley model, whereby merchants sell vouchers to customers, who then give them to panhandlers, who, in turn, exchange the vouchers for food or services.

Apologies From Me and My Editor: If this column seems long, it is. I submitted twice the amount of copy as usual, in order to make up for the December/January issue, in which you got one month of news spread over two months.

Until next time, see you on patrol. □



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Karin Hoehne serves up "good portions" of healthy eats at her Diamond Corner Cafe. PHOTOS BY CHARLES KENNARD.

By Rick Garner

Two new cafes, a used clothing store, and an athletic gym have all cropped up in the neighborhood in the past couple of months, just in time to usher in what we're hoping will be a healthier economy in 1993.

Diamond Corner Cafe 751 Diamond St. 282-9551

With the aroma of fresh-brewed Caffe Roma coffee in the air, strollers along upper 24th Street may wonder if they've somehow been transported to Paris. But if they stop in at the Diamond Corner Cafe, they'll discover a decidedly Noe Valley menu of "smoothies" (a specialty), sandwiches, salads, and baked goods.

In November, Noe Valley resident Karin Hoehne opened the cafe at the corner of 24th and Diamond (formerly home to Taste of Honey bakery), "because this is my favorite part of town." The theme, she says, is "healthy, clean, and fresh, served in good portions."

Open daily at 7 a.m., the cafe offers early-risers fresh-baked muffins, pastries, and coffee (including espresso drinks). The lunch and dinner menus feature specials such as rosemary chicken with new potatoes and salad (\$5.50) and seafood pizza with salad (\$4.95), as well as hot and cold sandwiches, pastas, and frittatas.

Hoehne proudly notes that her desserts and pastries are fresh-baked on site ("the bread pudding is a favorite") and that smoothies (\$3.25), such as the Emerald Douceur and the Tropical Pearl, are made with fresh-squeezed juices and fruit.

Diamond Corner's bright interior, with its stone-textured floor and art-covered walls, provides a great place to eat and relax.

It's open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, and from 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday.

STORETREK

Top Drawer 1781 Church St. 695-0578

Women and men in search of quality business clothing at bargain prices should check out the Top Drawer consignment shop, located at 1781 Church St. (near Day and 30th).

"I grew up shopping in consignment stores," says Connie Peecher, who, along with her husband, William, owns and manages the store. "One day I realized I could do a better job."

The Peechers moved Top Drawer from Bernal Heights to Noe Valley in early November. "This is definitely a step up for us," notes Connie. "Noe Valley is a much better location: it's sunnier and the shop is roomier."

William points out, "Our strongest suit (no pun intended) is professional clothes for the working woman. We offer jackets, pants, suits, and blouses geared for the workplace."

"With some fun things thrown in too," adds Connie.

Top Drawer carries women's designer



William Peecher, and wife, Connie, have added a secondhand clothing store to Church Street's commercial strip.

labels such as Ellen Tracy, Anne Klein, and Bill Blass. "We also carry some of the more popular men's items, like nicer jackets, sport coats, and shoes," says William, adding that they plan to expand their men's inventory now that space permits. "I can't keep overcoats in stock—they're gone within minutes of my getting them."

Almost 80 percent of the goods at Top Drawer are used—selected from a list of clients who regularly turn over their closets every three or four months. But the clothes are in great condition. "Unlike thrift stores, where you must wade through rack after rack," says William, "here you can cut right to the chase."

The Peechers complement the second-hand stock (priced from \$5 to \$40) with new items, some purchased from large manufacturers offering special discounts.

Among the more whimsical finds cur-

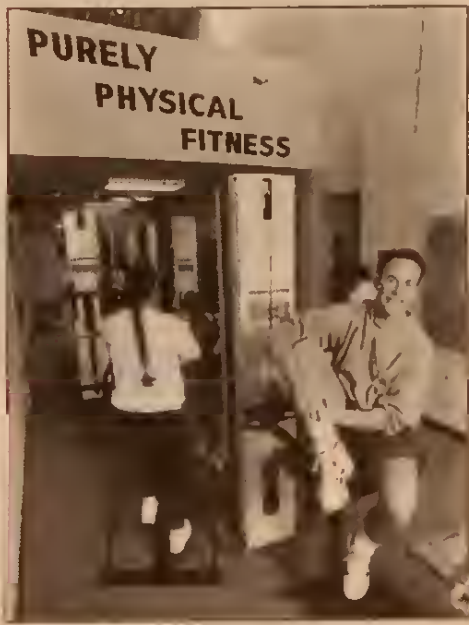
rently in stock is a vintage opera cloak for that special evening out. There are also three cases of costume jewelry, with some pieces dating from the '50s. The back room is filled with furniture, small collectables, and knickknacks.

Top Drawer is open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Consignment hours are by appointment only.

Purely Physical 1414 Castro St. 282-1329

This fall, as he watched his client list grow and his space above the 25th Street Workout center dwindle, personal trainer Randal Bitterman realized that he needed to spread out. So in November he moved across the street to 1414 Castro St., near Jersey, and opened Purely Physical, an expanded center for personalized fitness training.

A former aerobics instructor and Reebok-sponsored athlete, Bitterman is looking forward to an enthusiastic neighborhood response. "Before this, there wasn't a gym in Noe Valley, and I wanted to



Owner Randal Bitterman gives Noe Valleyans a chance to pump iron and stair-climb to their heart's content at his Purely Physical gym on Castro Street.

offer a service that people could use."

With an emphasis on tailor-made fitness programs, Bitterman and his staff offer individualized weight training, as well as "circuit" training, which combines aerobic exercise with weights to promote muscle tone and cardiovascular fitness. Massage and deep-tissue bodywork are also available.

Clients will find the latest in Cybex machines, free weights, stair-climbers, and other cardiovascular equipment at Purely Physical, all in an airy, modern, two-story environment. Dressing rooms are stocked with soaps, shampoo, and hair dryers; lockers and towels are provided free of charge. And for stimulation of the mind as well as the body, Bitterman exhibits a rotating display of art work.

Memberships start at \$60 per month, with six-month and yearly passes avail-



Cafe Sanchez, on the corner of Sanchez and Army, has an organic bent and a comfy atmosphere.

able. Circuit training is \$9 per session; personal training, \$50, with multi-session passes available at discount rates. Bodywork rates begin at \$50 per hour.

Purely Physical is open Monday through Friday from 5:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Saturday from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., and Sunday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Cafe Sanchez 3998 Army St. 641-5683

A hand-painted sign went up last spring at the corner of Army and Sanchez, announcing the grand opening of Cafe Sanchez "in 1992." Well, it took a while, but the cafe finally made its long-anticipated debut in November.

Cafe Sanchez's beginnings go back more than two years, to when co-owner Keli Noton used her Aunt Addie's gingerbread recipe to start My Favorite Foods, a baking business supplying local cafes and restaurants. Noton was subsequently joined by co-owner Annette English, the business thrived, and the two women decided to start their own eatery.

Cafe Sanchez features well-balanced, single-dish meals that try to steer clear of fat and dairy products. To take advantage of the freshest produce available, menus are seasonal, and ingredients are 100 percent organic whenever possible. Wheat-free dishes will be on the menu soon, the owners say.

You can order a breakfast of poached eggs or homemade granola with topping, or choose from a variety of breads and muffins. Lunch and dinner specials change weekly, and include such hearty fare as sautéed Cajun prawns with "black and mahogany" rice and vegetables (\$7.95) and roasted Thai chicken on red cabbage with jicama and a sesame vinaigrette dressing (\$7.50). Fresh turkey, roasted daily, is served in a sandwich loaded with roasted peppers and brie, for \$6.95.

Cafe Sanchez has a sunny Mediterranean feel, and diners are welcome to enjoy their coffee and dessert while sitting in overstuffed armchairs on the sidewalk.

Hours are from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. Look for Monday hours in the future.

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Photographer Snaps Rock Stars for Love And Money

By Jeff Kaliss

In the Prado Gallery on 24th Street, Steve Rapport is gazing at a luminescent, 11-by-14 photograph of the hauntingly beautiful Annie Lennox. He took it back in 1985, when she was still vocalist with the popular rock band the Eurythmics, and when he was still based in his birthplace, London.

"I got to work with the Eurythmics on all their early promos," says Rapport in a rapid-fire working-class English accent. Since the time of the portrait, Lennox has gone on to an even more successful solo career, and Rapport and his wife, Bekka, whom he met while working on a Eurythmics biography, have emigrated to Noe Valley.

"I saw Annie a year or two ago, and I haven't seen her since," says Rapport. "But this is what happens with people when they become big stars—they go with the stellar photographers or fashion photographers, though it doesn't mean they're particularly good photographers."

The line-up of celebrity portraits on Prado Gallery's wall seems adequate testimony to Rapport's own status, as well as to his skill. Surrounding Lennox are David Bowie, Little Richard, Bruce Springsteen, and John Lee Hooker. And they're all for sale, framed.

"This is an experiment for me and Hector Sabates, the owner of Prado," explains Rapport. "You can't sell black-and-white photos in England for love or money. But over here, people actually regard your work as art."

David Bowie personally requested Rapport's services for his portrait on the set of the 1985 rock video *Loving the Alien*. The photographer was paid a thousand dollars for the job, and another thousand for additional use of the photograph for publicity and on album sleeves.

Little Richard, portrayed sitting at a piano, looks as amused as Bowie looks somber. "That was commissioned by Warner's in England," says Rapport. "My wife helped me on that shoot. She helps set up the lights, which takes some pressure off me so I can concentrate on what I'm supposed to be doing—establishing some rapport, if you will, with the artist."

"Little Richard really liked Bekka and was having a lot of fun with her." The rock legend, who's also a preacher, even offered to preside over Rapport's marriage, but was unavailable when the time came.

The dynamic, in-concert photo of "The Boss" is Rapport's personal favorite. "I've been a Bruce fan since about '76," he says. "And that picture's been used all over the place, on the cover of a Springsteen book and in newspapers and magazines."

Rapport photographed John Lee Hooker at his home in Redwood City for last month's issue of *Vox*, an English magazine that regularly features Rap-



One of the reasons Diamond Street resident Steve Rapport has such a good "rapport" with rock musicians is that he's not a paparazzi. "I don't take pictures at parties, and I don't annoy people," he says. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD.

port's work. "I think it's a bit clichéd," he says of the photo, "but that's the idea they have over there about an old blues guy sitting on his porch picking his guitar."

"But I don't like 'cute,'" insists Rapport. "I don't know if you'd call it honesty, but what I take is what you'll see. I'm a very straight photographer. I don't do *paparazzi*, I don't take pictures at parties, and I don't annoy people." He also eschews the "intermediate stage" of processing and printing his own film, preferring to let others do that for him.

Rapport doesn't ever want to be thought of as an elitist, though. "A working-class sensibility has shaped the way I've thought since I was a kid, and the way I vote," he stresses. He grew up in the modest London neighborhood of West Ham, where, he says, "My dad was in the Merchant Navy for a long time, and later a salesman. And my mum worked as a machinist and did a variety of jobs while bringing up kids. It was never that easy."

The elder Rapport, who died eight years ago, supported his son's passion for the camera, but "my mum still wants me to be a lawyer. You know, she's a Jewish mother. And I did go to university and got a law degree, but I was always more interested in photography."

He's also been attracted to what he calls "Americana" since he was a teenager. "I saw American movies, literature, music, movies, and cars," he says. A skilled soccer player, he is also fascinated by the American sports of baseball and football.

In the late '70s, Rapport started "taking most of my holidays" in the United States, and a decade later Bekka began joining him. Last year the couple moved here for good.

"I think ever since I read *On the Road*, I've always wanted to live in San Francisco," he remarks. "And Noe Valley is an area we particularly liked, because it's quite reminiscent of where we used to live in London, in Clapham, in that it's a nice, friendly neighborhood with good shops. We never really feel threatened or worried around here."

This sense of community and safety, he notes, even permeates local sports bars, such as Noe's Bar & Grill (where we conducted the second half of the interview).

"My wife didn't enjoy watching sports in England," he explains, "because it's very male and quite oppressive there. But over here, it's much easier to go to any sporting event as a family and get very well treated."

"And I've found in my travels around



Steve Rapport took this shot of Annie Lennox at London's Churchill Hotel in 1985, when she was still lead singer for the Eurythmics.

this country over the years that, for example, if you're from San Francisco and you're at a bar in Dallas, they'd be interested, and you might make a friendship over talking about your teams. In England, it's more likely if you're at a bar in Liverpool, you'd end up with a bottle in your face if they found out you're a Londoner. That's really abhorrent, it's a kind of regional fascism. And that's what fanaticism in sports breeds."

His new location has made Rapport more attractive to recession-bound English publications and record companies, which nowadays don't want to fly photographers and writers across the Atlantic. He shoots for the *Young Telegraph* (for which Bekka is an editor), *Time Out*, *Vox*, and several other magazines. His photos are syndicated internationally through the London-based Retna Pictures.

Also a writer, Rapport has done pieces for the *Guardian*, a London newspaper, about the World Series and the threatened sale of the Giants. He also turns out a regular gossip column for a teenage girls' entertainment magazine.

"Obviously it's quite difficult from here, because I have to 'Fed-Ex' stuff back to England. But generally, if I say it will be there on Friday, it will be," declares Rapport. "I never miss a deadline."

There's proof in the January issue of *Vox*, which features a shot of rapper Ice-T that Rapport took in Hollywood.

Although Rapport tries to stay enthused about contemporary rock, in the past few years, "the music really has taken second place to sports," he says.

"It's hard to tell whether it's that I'm getting older, or that there just aren't the same sort of bands around that there were. But I think the latter is true."

To check out Rapport's timeless portrayals of rock and blues veterans, drop by the Prado Gallery, located next to Designers' Club Too at the corner of 24th and Sanchez. □



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Jane Cutler Says Writing For Kids Is No Small Matter

By Kathy Dalle Molle

When 27th Street resident Jane Cutler re-entered the work force six years ago—newly divorced and with her three children finally on their own—she turned to the field she knew best: publishing.

With a master's degree in creative writing, several published short stories to her credit, and previous work experience as a textbook editor, she landed a job as an apprentice agent at San Francisco's Linda Allen literary agency.

"I thought the agent's job would be a good way to stay in the publishing field and earn a decent living," Cutler, 56, recalls.

Boy, was she wrong.

"I was a horrible agent," she says. "I have never failed so completely at anything. Despite trying very, very hard, I just couldn't sell."

The one bright spot in her job was reviewing the sprinkling of children's book submissions. Unfortunately, the agency's focus was on adult manuscripts, and the firm's president, Linda Allen, wasn't interested in branching into the children's market. Nevertheless, because of her background as a textbook editor, Cutler read many of these manuscripts with interest.

One in particular, by a Marin County author, caught her eye. "I thought it was a good book and very publishable, so I proposed to the president of the agency that I work with the writer on editing the manuscript," says Cutler. "I became very involved in the project. And suddenly I thought, Oh, this is what I really want to do."

Except for a short story she'd published in the kids' magazine *Jack and Jill* in the early 1960s, when her daughter was a toddler, Cutler had written solely for adults. "Writing adult short fiction is fun and challenging," says Cutler, "but in the end, no one reads short stories except other short story writers. So we all sit around writing for one another."

"On the other hand, there's a reason to write for children other than self-expression. There is a real need to write well, to capture an audience for whom a book can make a difference. No matter how many books children don't read, and no matter how many children don't read books, and [no matter] how much competition there is, from soccer to television, children still do read books. Sometimes they're forced. Sometimes they're encouraged. But a single book can make a tremendous difference in the life of a child."

Soon after she decided to pursue writing for children, Cutler quit her job at the agency—but not before her former boss signed her on as a client.

In December 1991, Farrar, Straus & Giroux published Cutler's first children's book, *Family Dinner*, an offbeat tale of breaking with tradition, about a happy family who chooses not to eat dinner to-



Twenty-seventh Street resident Jane Cutler has written two books for children, *Family Dinner* and *No Dogs Allowed*, both of which stand a good chance of luring the kids away from the television set. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS.

gether. The book received accolades from *School Library Journals*, *Kirkus Reviews*, and numerous newspapers, including the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*.

Last October, Farrar published her second book, *No Dogs Allowed*, the story of a young boy who pretends he is a dog, much to the dismay and annoyance of his family. Once again, Cutler received rave reviews.

Like most authors, Cutler bases her books on experiences from her own life.

"The message of *Family Dinner* is that you don't have to have a family in a conventional sense; in this case, you don't have to have family dinner with your family to enjoy family dinner," she says. "You can have family dinner with a variety of folks."

"After publishing the book, I realized that what I was doing in writing it was comforting myself. I got divorced. My family fragmented. I didn't have a family in the same sense—a home with a husband and children. So what I was doing was writing about my own life and coming up with solutions to my circumstances and predicament."

For *No Dogs Allowed*, Cutler also found inspiration in her own household. "One of my sons pretended to be a dog and it drove our family crazy. But I can't remember anything else in the book that really happened," she adds. "I think writing for children comes out of our experiences in the same way that writing for adults does, but it extends itself."

Cutler is currently at work on her third children's book, a coming-of-age story based in part on her childhood experiences during World War II. She was born in New York City, but spent most of her youth in Clayton, Mo. After receiving a B.A. in English from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., Cutler arrived in the Bay Area in 1963.

She points out that she began her new writing career by immersing herself in all sorts of children's literature—from

E. B. White's *Charlotte's Web* to Beverly Cleary's series of *Ramona* books—while at the same time teaching courses in children's writing at San Francisco State University and U.C. Berkeley Extension.

"Teaching is the best way to educate yourself about what you want to learn," she explains. "Any teacher I've ever talked to about teaching says they learn more than their students do, because before you can teach something to others, you have to understand it completely yourself. In the case of children's books, if you haven't read a lot of them, if you haven't dissected them and figured out what makes the good ones good, what makes the great ones great, what makes the mundane ones average, you can't teach writing for children."

"A first-rate children's book does many things," she continues. "It tells a good story, it interests the reader, and it empowers the child, which can mean many different things. It can mean the child identifies strongly with the protagonist, and as the protagonist moves through a series of difficulties or trials and meets the challenges, the child reader is empowered through that identification."

"Or, as a friend of mine pointed out, a child can be empowered by coming into contact with really good language—language that is being used well and meaningfully and in a way that makes sense to the child, perhaps for the very first time. One way or another, children deserve books that make life seem worthwhile and possible."

Unlike many writers who try to write a set number of words a day, Cutler prefers what she calls the E. B. White method of writing.

"White said a writer is like a surfer, waiting for the perfect wave. I'm that kind of writer," she says. "White used to walk around straightening the pictures and rugs in his home as if no word could be written until everything in his house were true and straight. I do a lot of walk-

ing around and staring into space and writing in my head."

Cutler adds that she gets a good deal of writing done during her daily swim. She keeps pen and paper near the pool, so she can make notes as soon as she's done with her laps.

Although she started out writing for adults, Cutler doesn't foresee publishing much for that market in the future. She believes her time is better spent writing for those in the 8 to 14 age bracket. In fact, while some writers might feel like throwing in the towel—in these days of public-library closures, 500-channel TV, and a seemingly endless stream of other media diversions—Cutler only sees opportunity.

"All this makes me feel challenged," she says. "The whole issue of literacy, the whole issue of not having enough money to keep the library open or to have libraries in schools, is really more of a problem than whether there is or is not television. It isn't the existence of television that is threatening us. I think it's that we are shutting down other resources."

"Books have to fight for an audience, which is a very good reason for writing compelling books. It puts the pressure back on the writer. Can you write a book that is interesting and compelling enough to take a child away from the television set? Well, that's the challenge."

She pauses for a moment, then says, "I started writing for children when I was 53, and I think if I have a good long life, maybe I can write a truly wonderful children's book someday." □



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Attention, Chocoholics

The Noc Valley Nursery School, at 1021 Sanchez St., offers Noe Valleyans a chance to participate in a fundraiser while indulging their collective sweet tooth. at its third annual "Winter Elegance Champagne and Dessert Tasting," to be held Friday, Feb. 5, at 8 p.m.

This don't-start-that-diet-until-tomorrow event will feature chocolates, pastries, and other decadent desserts donated by Joseph Schmidt Confections, Sweet Inspiration, Cocolat, Patisserie Delanghe, Dianda's, Tassajara Bakery, Il Fornaio, Victoria Pastry, Double Rainbow, and What's for Dessert.

Between bites, participants may cleanse their palates with sparkling wines from 24th Street's T. Marasco Selections.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 13. For more information, call the parent-participation nursery school at 647-2278. Then hold the broccoli and pass that eclair.

Eager Readers Needed

Alvarado Elementary School is asking for book donations to help improve its library, and for volunteers to staff the library and read to the children.

"We would like people with library skills," says Mary Lou Harris, a program resource clerk and parent volunteer at Alvarado, "for cataloguing and keeping track of all the books in circulation."

According to another school patron, local resident John Brunn, "the school has a history of neighborhood involvement. This year is the 25th anniversary, for example, of the Alvarado Art Project, which was started by Ruth Asawa, Nancy Thompson, and many others."

Books may be dropped off at Alvarado, located at 625 Douglass St. Or give Brunn a call at 641-0561 and he'll pick them up.

Also, if you have any items you'd like to donate to Alvarado's upcoming rummage sale on March 6, call Chris Conry at 626-2431.

A Rebound for Noe Courts

Noe Courts' tennis and basketball courts are about to get a much needed facelift, thanks to a group of active neighbors living near the park located at 24th and Douglass streets.

The park received an Open Space grant a year and a half ago, and the city's wheels were set in (slow) motion to hire a contractor for the job at that time.

A contractor has finally been hired, says Erica Green, a neighbor who has been instrumental in bringing about many Noe Courts improvements, "and now we're waiting for good weather to begin work. Repair of the courts should start sometime in early spring."

In addition to the resurfacing project, construction of a new steel fence around the park is scheduled to begin after the courts have been repaired. Architect Steve Kolm, whose 22-month-old daughter enjoys the children's playground at Noe Courts, has taken a lead role in designing the fence, which will keep small children in and wandering dogs out.

Both Kolm and Green note that none of these improvements would have come about without a push from the community. "We're just a bunch of neighbors," says Kolm, "not anything official."

Green, who can be reached at 661-0703, invites the public to contribute further suggestions for park improvements. "One idea," she says, "is to open the public bathroom." Hey, what a concept!

Make Your Beauty Mark

March 15 is the deadline to apply for this year's grants from the city's Neighborhood Beautification and Graffiti Clean-Up Fund (NBF). The grants will be awarded in July.

Born when Proposition D was passed by voters in June 1990, the fund enables neighborhood groups to launch grass-roots projects such as graffiti removal,

SHORT TAKES



We Like Your Tryke: Noe Valley native Lou Molinari, shown here at the corner of Church and 28th, has discovered the perfect mode of transportation to and from neighborhood shops: an adult three-wheeler, with basket. Now where can we get one? PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

street clean-ups, tree plantings, and the installation of trash receptacles. (Last year, the Friends of Noe Valley won a grant to purchase additional trashcans for 24th Street, and a number were installed this fall.)

Beautification revenues are derived from businesses choosing to allocate up to 1 percent of their payroll or business tax to the fund. For fiscal year 1992-93, the NBF awarded \$309,000 to 22 non-profits and city agencies.

Kim Fowler, coordinator of the fund, says her office wants to "ensure that the program affects as broad an area of San Francisco as possible. In the first two years, we have funded projects from North Beach to the Excelsior. We always want to expand the funding into new areas, and encourage new applicants to contact us."

Application forms are available at the NBF office in Room 271 at City Hall, or by calling 554-7979.

Firehouse Renovation

On Saturday, Feb. 20, representatives from the city's Department of Public Works invite Noe Valley residents to take a tour of local Fire Station No. 24 from 9 to 9:45 a.m., and then join them for a 10 a.m. public meeting on plans to earthquake-proof the 80-year-old building.

The firehouse is located at 100 Hoffman Ave. (near Alvarado Street), and the

meeting will be held a block away, at Alvarado School, 625 Douglass St.

Last year, San Francisco voters passed a bond measure to fund the seismic retrofitting of firehouses around the city. "Many of these stations, including the one on Hoffman [built in 1913], are historic buildings, directly related to the neighborhood," says Alex Mamak, director of public information for DPW's Bureau of Construction Management. "And the department wants public input on their design."

The city's Bureau of Architecture is now working with the Fire Department to design upgrades that will preserve the original structure and artistic integrity of the old stations.

If you can't make the meeting but want to know more, call the Department of Public Works at 431-9430.

Is Your Street SAFE?

Barbara Lynn, a crime prevention specialist with the group Safety Awareness For Everyone (SAFE), will be the featured speaker at the Feb. 11 Friends of Noe Valley meeting.

The presentation will provide an informative look at the SAFE program, which helps city residents increase their security by setting up their own neighborhood watch groups.

Friends of Noe Valley meetings are held at the 451 Jersey St. branch library,

at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month. The Friends invite all Noe Valley residents to attend.

For more information, contact Friends of Noe Valley Vice President Mark Blackburn at 863-5563.

Demos Open Top Job

The San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee is looking for someone to fill the organization's top administrative position—that of executive director.

Job responsibilities include organizing voter registration and get-out-the-vote drives, administering the daily activities of the group's business office, and supervising staff employed by the committee.

The salary for this three-quarter-time position is \$1,500 to \$2,000 a month.

Those interested in applying should act immediately, however. The hire date is scheduled for Feb. 1-15. Send inquiries to Kenneth Miller, San Francisco Democratic Party, 100 McAllister St., Suite 350, San Francisco, CA 94102-4929; or phone 626-1161.

Care for Caregivers

KAIROS - Support for Caregivers, a center devoted to shoring up those who care for people with AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses, is now embarking on its winter schedule of classes and workshops.

For partners, friends, and family members of persons with HIV, KAIROS offers a choice of three eight-week programs: "Heart to Heart" (held on Mondays), "Rekindle the Flame" (Tuesdays), and "Give Yourself a Break" (Thursdays).

Health care professionals, counselors, social workers, agency staff, and volunteers are encouraged to take advantage of another eight-week series, "Pacing Ourselves," which addresses the issue of multiple loss, as well as other challenges of AIDS care.

The center also hosts free drop-in introductory sessions on Thursday evenings, where participants receive a copy of the caregiver's booklet, *Together We Care*, local resource listings, and information on other KAIROS programs and services.

All groups and sessions meet from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at KAIROS House (114 Douglass St.), and are limited to 10 participants. Advance registration, along with an \$80 donation, is required for each of the eight-week series. To register or inquire about scholarships, call KAIROS at 861-0877.

Home Services Guide

The 1993 edition of *Services for the Homebound*, a 43-page booklet listing agencies and businesses that provide home deliveries and make home visits, is hot off the presses.

Published by the Senior Information and Referral Program of the San Francisco Commission on Aging, the booklet is helpful not only to seniors, but to caregivers and professional workers in gerontology, social work, and the health professions.

"It's also used by much younger handicapped people and adult children of aging parents who need to find services for their parents," says Verle Grossman, information and referral specialist for the commission.

Pet care providers, podiatrists, pharmacies, cleaners, and transportation services are some of the services listed. And, notes Grossman, "grocery stores are very popular since Safeway stopped home deliveries. As the aging population grows in San Francisco, it's important for mom and pop stores to offer delivery services. In Noe Valley, Valley Pride Market on Castro Street delivers."

Order your \$2 copy by calling 626-1033, or drop by the Commission on Aging, 25 Van Ness Ave., Room 750, and pick one up. □

This month's "Short Takes" were written and compiled by Janet Jacobs.



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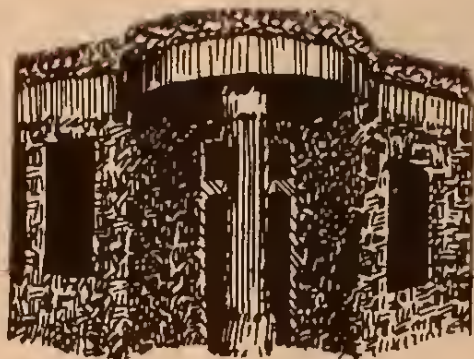
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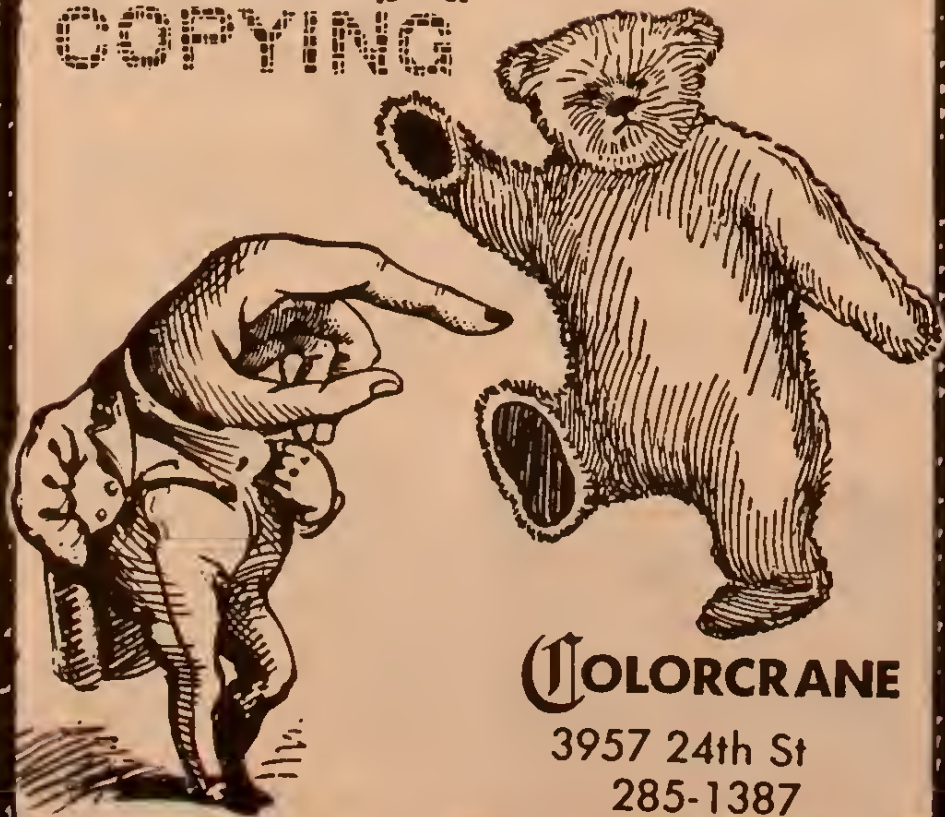
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An Eye on the New Year

It seemed like old times this December, getting our Christmas card out so late that we had to update it to a New Year's card!

But there was a good reason for such tardiness: my man Leo and I were involved in a rewarding but time-consuming project. (This column is really Leo's story, but modesty prevents him from telling it, so with pride I shall!)

It all began in early autumn last year, when a group of Stanford Associates (the honor society of alumni and friends that encourages volunteer service to Stanford) approached Leo with a proposal. They asked him if he would consider printing a limited-edition portfolio (100) of four of his classic Stanford photographs, to be sold to raise money for much-needed services in the arts. Leo said he would be pleased to participate.

Invitations went out, culminating in a reception and exhibit of Leo's "Stanford Classics" and other work at the Stanford Art Gallery on Saturday, Nov. 13.

There, after being introduced in triplicate and in glowing terms by Stanford dignitaries, Leo faced his audience to deliver a delightful speech, a portion of which I would like to share with you here:

"It is true that I joined the Art Department in 1969, but I first came to Stanford in the fall of 1960 as a designer and photographer, upon the invitation of the planning director. The incoming freshman class also arrived and, unbeknownst to one other, we grew to fall under the spell of Stanford. That class went on to commencement in 1964, but I stayed on for another 16 years—unmatriculated, ungraduated.

"... As I slowly drifted along my river of time, in a rowboat without oars, the student population remained on the banks, forever age 17 to 21, creating for me a sort of Doppler effect of aging. Except for the clothes, the students I see tomorrow will look exactly like 'my' class of 1964.

"This building, too, is 'my' building—the Thomas Welton Gallery, its cornerstone laid in 1916, the year of my birth. My building, the focus of most of my Stanford triumphs, climaxing in this glorious evening."

Leo's job as a photographer at Stanford's Planning Department included working with the Development Office, in particular with a woman named Ann Rosener. In 1964, Ann compiled 245 of Leo's prints, to form the exhibition "Stanford Seen."

These photographs of campus life filled all the university gallery's rooms, and the exhibit set an attendance record. In 1976, it was followed by a second show of Leo's work, this time of 145 prints.

Another triumph came when Dr. Lorenz Eitner, the forward-looking head of the Art Department, added photography as a studio class and offered Leo a space in the basement of the Art Building to teach it.

"It proved to be a success, and I was added to the Art Department faculty in 1969," Leo told his audience. "The need for such a class was shown by the fact that the students spent the night before the first day of registration in sleeping

FLORENCE'S FAMILY ALBUM

Illustrated Reminiscences by Florence Holub



"Stanford, Inner Court, Roofs," photographed by Leo Holub, 1961.

bags outside the Art Building. As the interest grew, another lecturer was added, and during our 10-year tenure, we together nurtured 3,500 students, with a success rate of 98.7 percent."

When Leo retired from Stanford in 1980, he was taken aside and told, "We are not going to give you a watch or a golden handshake. But our curator is organizing a surprise show of some of your prime graduates, featuring 13 'all-stars' who have gone on to graduate school, teaching jobs, or exhibitions." Stanford titled the show "Thanks to Leo!"

Two years later, the Stanford Alumni Association published a book of Leo's photos, *Leo Holub, Photographer*.

During the last decade, Leo has spent a great deal of time photographing the artists whose works comprise the Anderson Collection of Modern and

Contemporary Prints (I described this in a past column). He gave Stanford a working portfolio of these prints, which was installed last fall in conjunction with the Anderson Collection exhibition at the Stanford Art Gallery.

But at the end of his "Stanford Classics" speech in November, Leo asked for "a few parting shots." And with that, he raised his camera to his eye and, moving from left to right, snapped a series of panoramic shots, capturing his beaming audience on film forever.

I too have been an admiring audience for my husband for over 50 years.

So I must add that here on the home front, his photography has necessitated some minor adjustments.

For example, when the first big exhibition required that hundreds of

prints come out of the darkroom to dry, every flat space in our Noe Valley home was utilized. The deck out back, the rugs inside, and the beds upstairs were all covered with damp photographs.

Occasionally they got stepped on, and often after they dried, we went to bed only to find ourselves enveloped in clammy blankets. This led to an alternative drying technique: I ironed every damp photograph on the kitchen ironing board, face down—that is, until Leo built drying racks in the basement.

It also took a while for me to learn that I must not turn on the washing machine when Leo is using his enlarger. The power drain—oops—results in a ruined, underdeveloped print and a waste of extremely expensive paper.

One of the benefits of having a photographer around the house, however, has been the marvelous visual record Leo kept of our sons as they grew and matured.

He kept another album, too, of his students, or his "kids," as he calls them—although many are now approaching middle age and have children of their own. They keep in touch, send photographs, and visit whenever they come to town.

A few months ago, in fact, one of Leo's "all-stars" came to town on a photo assignment and stayed with us for a week, sleeping on the living room couch. We couldn't help but notice how comfortably he fit into our lifestyle, with his camera gear and photographs (which were breathtaking, by the way) scattered around.

I have also grown accustomed, over the years, to opening our home to a fascinating array of Leo's mentors and peers. One of our most beloved visitors for over 40 years was Leo's personal friend and adviser, Imogen Cunningham. I remember one time when Leo photographed Imogen while she was sitting in a rocking chair on our back deck. The light was fading fast as Leo fiddled with the focus on his subject, so Imogen quietly but knowingly slipped her foot under the rocker to keep it still. She always said that she particularly liked that photograph—perhaps because she had contributed to its success.

At the age of 75, my husband the photographer is as busy and productive as ever. So we were well into December before Leo came out of the darkroom and finally got around to helping with the Christmas cards.

At that point it seemed natural and appropriate for us to have our printer son, Jan, lithograph the same photograph that was used to illustrate the "Stanford Classics" invitation.

Our cards finally went out with a reproduction of "Inner Court, Roofs" (1961) on the face, and with a hastily inscribed "Happy New Year from Florence and Leo" inside.

P.S. In early January, to our amazement, the mailman brought an elegantly engraved invitation from William Jefferson Clinton to attend his inauguration in Washington, D.C.

Leo wasn't invited, just "Florence Holub," with no idea why—unless someone up there reads the *Noe Valley Voice*! I didn't attend, but watched the inspiring proceedings on TV—shouting, waving, and clapping joyously from the well-used couch in our Noe Valley parlor.

So here's wishing both you and our new president a productive and peaceful New Year!

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Clipper Street SAFE Group
 Contact: Don Kern or Howard Johnson, 821-3866
 Mailing Address: 225 Clipper St., San Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: Third Tuesday of month, Bethany Methodist Church, 201 Clipper St., 7 p.m.

Diamond Heights Community Association
 Contact: Robert Dockendorff, 826-3867
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31529, San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: First Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m. Call for location.

Dolores Heights Improvement Club
 Contact: Bruce Muncil, 864-7847
 Mailing Address: 336 Cumberland St., San Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: Irregular

Duncan-Newhurg Association
 Contact: Evelyn Martin, 826-6734, Janet Kennedy, 647-1844, or Deanna Mooney, 821-4045
 Mailing Address: 560 Duncan St., San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Irregular

East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club
 Contact: Paul Kantus, 647-3753
 Mailing Address: 492 Douglass St., San Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: First Wednesday of month, Room 108, James Lick School, 1220 Noe St., 8 p.m.

Fairmount Neighborhood Association
 Contact: Al Ujcic, 648-3545, or Susan Nutter, 285-8484
 Mailing Address: 78 Harper St., San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Held periodically at Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day and Sanchez, 7 p.m.

Fair Oaks Neighbors
 Contact: Kevin Brickley, 285-4938
 Mailing Address: 165 Fair Oaks St., San Francisco, CA 94110
 Meetings: Twice a year at ICA Auditorium, 24th and Guerrero streets

Friends of Noe Valley
 Contact: Steve Roseman
 Answering machine number: 285-3532
 Mailing Address: 4444 24th St., San Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: Second Thursday of month, Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., 7:30 p.m.

Glen Park Association
 Contact: Joan Seiwald, 586-4448
 Mailing Address: Glen Park Association, P.O. Box 31292, San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Second Tuesday of month, Glen Park Recreation Center, Elk and Chenery, 7:30 p.m.

Liberty-Hill Neighborhood Association
 Contact: John Barbey, 695-0990, or Hilda Bernstein, 282-8232
 Mailing Address: 3333 21st St., San Francisco, CA 94110
 Meetings: Quarterly.
 Call for time and location.

Noe Valley Democratic Club
 Contact: Rick Hauptman, 647-0549
 Mailing Address: 1595 Noe St., #6, San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Third Wednesday of month, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., 7 p.m.

Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association
 Contact: J. P. Gillen, 821-1515
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 460574, San Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: Last Wednesday of month, Bank of America, 24th and Castro, 9 a.m.

R.A.A.G.E. Race Awareness Arbitration Group Education
 Contact: 648-4092
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Upper Noe Neighbors
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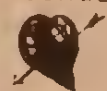


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Noe Valley To Hear from Gil Scott-Heron This Month

By Jeff Kaliss

As the nation gets used to its first baby boomer chief exec—and the first with any appreciable history of social activism—it's appropriate that Noe Valley (which threw the bulk of its electoral support behind Clinton) will be hosting song writer/poet Gil Scott-Heron this month.

"He's been a hero of mine since I was in college," testifies Larry Kassin, coordinator of the Noe Valley Music Series, which will welcome Scott-Heron to the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., on Saturday, Feb. 20.

"The key is his ability to present material from an African-American perspective, and to make it musically hip and exciting. Over the years, he's retained his integrity, though now he's doing more spoken-word and poetry stuff."

If you think back to Scott-Heron's output during Clinton's, Kassin's, and my college days (the '60s and '70s), you could rightfully call him an ancestor of rap, with such message-laden hits as "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised" and "The Bottle." Other spoken-sung singles, such as "Angel Dust," "Johannesburg," and "South Carolina," were ahead of the protest game in addressing the abuse of drugs, apartheid, and nuclear power.

The 43-year-old Scott-Heron has written two books of poetry and recorded 17



Valentine Alert: Knowing full well that Noe Valleyans are a sappy bunch (or should be, in any case), the One Stop Party Shop, at Church and 28th streets, stocked up on Cupids, hearts, and bows last month. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP.

albums. His most recent sides, performed with his seven-piece Amnesia Band on the British Castle Communications label, are hard to find, but the neighborhood's Streetlight Records stocks *The Best of Gil Scott-Heron*, an Arista release.

The Noe Valley Music Series starts the month off on Saturday, Feb. 6, with jazzman Glen Cronkhite, who is sometimes associated with the fanciful ensemble Oregon. PMS, as you might expect, is an often funny female vocal group, which will rock and roll into the Ministry

a week later on Feb. 13.

Yasha, a Turkish music ensemble assembled by Marin County percussionist Vince Delgado, performs on Friday, Feb. 26, and Rambling Jack Elliott will team up with Vanguard Records veteran John Herald for some folksy sets on the following day, Feb. 27.

Most Music Series concerts start at 8:15 p.m., and you can call Aquarius Records at 647-2272 for ticket information.

That last weekend of February also

celebrates the resumption of the Noe Valley Ministry's classical concert series. Series organizer Karen Heather reports that the Trio della Rosa, consisting of Ava Soifer on piano, Kristina Anderson on violin, and Daniel Reiter on cello, and will perform a repertoire featuring works by Dvorak, Martinu, and Shostakovich on Sunday, Feb. 28, starting at 2 p.m. For more information, call the church at 282-2317.

And you can help inaugurate the new pipe organ at Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church, 455 Fair Oaks St. (near 26th Street), on Friday, Feb. 19, at 8 p.m. Well, the organ is not exactly new—it's actually a 1903 George Kilgen & Son instrument—but it has just been restored, and proceeds from the concert will help pay for the cost of restoration. Organist Charles Rus will perform the music of Bach, Brahms, and Brühns. You can reach Holy Innocents at 824-5142.

At the more secular First Ining Lounge, on 24th between Noe and Castro, Pope & Friends has settled in as the regular house band, stirring up their hot mix of soul and rhythm and blues every Saturday night. For details, call First Ining bartender George Baney at 821-6789.

And please call me at 285-8844 with any information you may have about upcoming entertainment, whether it's happening in the neighborhood or performed elsewhere by neighborhood people. Also, don't forget to send your announcements by the 15th of the month to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

And again, thanks for keeping those eyes and ears open. □



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We've Got Questions, You've Got Answers

THE RUMORS RIDDLES we left you with in December were ridiculously easy. I guess you all knew that:

1. Yes, Janis Joplin did once live in the neighborhood (in the late '60s), on the top floor of the building situated on the northwest corner of Noe and 22nd streets. The rumor of the day was that she drove a circa 1919 Ford pick-up truck, emblazoned with the logo "Overland Freak Express."

On occasion, Janis could also be spotted among the hoards who waited in line for Bud's Ice Cream at the southwest corner of 24th and Castro.

By the way, also famous in those days were the lewd and lascivious, but highly edible cake-and-ice cream confections made by Magnolia Thunderpussy, sold at her shop on Castro Street across from Bud's (where Boldizar Karate is today). Janis probably sampled those too.

2. Question: Why did Tien Fu shut down its 24th Street restaurant operation? Answer: Because the kitchen had to be renovated in order to be brought up to code. But the real question is, will it ever be reopened? Tien Fu's owners, the Ha family, have shown no signs that they plan to begin remodeling, and, instead, are referring all Noe Valley patrons to their restaurant at 667 Monterey Blvd. (the China Wok). Meanwhile, the Tien Fu Bar (with the addition of a pool table) remains open for business at 3945 24th St.

3. How many turkeys were donated by Drewes Market customers to St. Anthony's Dining Room on Thanksgiving? According to Dave McCarroll, who owns the popular Church Street butcher shop, the total came to 40 turkeys, weighing 612 pounds. Customers also donated an additional 36 turkeys to the Dining Room for Christmas. Way to go, Noe Valley.

4. As for who or what will occupy the spot vacated in October by Security Pacific Bank (after it merged with the BofA), your guess is as good as mine. The building at 4040 24th St. is reportedly up for lease or sale, and probably for plenty. So it's hard to tell how long it will stand vacant, or how many posters will be plastered on its plate-glass storefront. Some residents are lobbying for Wells Fargo to abandon its ATMs across the street, and open a full-fledged branch, one with real live human beings, in Security Pacific's old digs.

☎ ☎ ☎

NEIGHBORLY NEWS: For the second year in a row, Downtown Noe Valley merchants got a helping hand from students participating in James Lick Middle School's "Students in Stores Program" (SSP).

During three weeks in November and

and now for the RUMORS behind the news BY MAZOOK

December, seventh-graders in Joe Rubin's "Unified Arts" class spent their third period (10:50 to 11:45 a.m.) stocking the shelves, tagging merchandise, running errands, and tending to customers at neighborhood shops.

"There were 29 students who met about two dozen 24th Street merchants, and then went through the process of resume-writing, interviewing, and working at a job," says Rubin, who also teaches math and science at the school.

Rubin launched the SSP program in 1991, after recognizing that his students could use some job skills, and that both the kids and the community would benefit from positive interaction.

The students who volunteered their time this fall (they don't get paid) wrote about their experiences in January.

Marco Valencia, who worked at Jim and Son's Produce on 24th near Church, gave a detailed description of his duties. "I carried boxes of food to be disposed, labeled prices with the price gun, stacked fruits on the inside display, carried garbage out, located products for customers, and kept milk displays stacked neatly." Marco added that "Jim was a very good man. I liked him a lot, and I hope I work again."

Tino Miranda had a part-time position with the Animal Company, at 24th and Douglass. "I worked with Sergio. We put items on the shelf, helped people put bags in their cars, fed the fish and birds, priced the items and other fun things. I thought it was going to be boring, but it ended up fun."

Before he applied for his job on 24th Street, Josh Axelrod put together a resume, which described his background like so: "Education—I have been going to school since I was 4. Now I am in the 7th grade [with] a 'B' average. In elementary school, I was chosen Student of the Month twice, and have gotten a lot of awards."

"Work Experience—I have had many jobs: paper route for over a year, I babysit, I help my dad with his work, and I am very cooperative."

Daveine Pasdera, manager of the local BofA branch, gave a glowing report of her experience with the kids. "Two students worked here at the bank, filing signature cards, and they did a wonderful job and really enjoyed it," she said. "And the timing for us was perfect, because we really had work that needed to be done at year's end."

Joe Rubin is proud of all the students and grateful to all the merchants who participated. In addition to those mentioned above, the shops included Gallery of Jewels, Small Frys, Peek-A-Bootique, Video Wave, Common Scents, Rabat Shoes, Rabat Clothes, Isa's Hair Studio, Vasquez Optical, Simon's Spanish Shop, Allure, Xela Imports, Cotton Basics, Noe Valley Bakery, Orpheus Leather,

Courtyard Cafe, Accent on Flowers, Classy Sweats, Noe Valley Cyclery, and the dental offices of Sylvia Jimenez Cox and Miriam Acosta.

Rubin says he hopes to do "Students in the Stores" again next November. In the meantime, his third-period class has a new project: a school newspaper under the banner *James Lick in Noe Valley News*. (Uh oh, the *Voice* may get some serious competition.)

☎ ☎ ☎

A MERRY BAND of petitioners descended on 24th Street last month, lobbying for a ballot measure that would "stop the \$15 million giveaway to the Giants' millionaire owners." The "giveaway" is the lease concession (\$3 mil over 5 years) that was granted by Mayor Franks-a-lot and ratified by the Board of Supervisors this fall, in order to keep the baseball team in San Francisco.

Larry Kisinger, of the Committee to Stop the Giveaway, has been stationed in front of Real Food Company since the middle of December. "This is my favorite place in the city because the neighborhood is so politically aware and progressive," says Larry. "I have been averaging over 100 signatures a weekend."

He adds: "I want to give special thanks to the canopy in front of Real Food Company, which kept me and the petitions dry during the storms, and I'm pretty sure we are over the top and made the ballot." (The committee needed to collect 30,000 signatures.)

Across the street, Elizabeth Street resident Greg Herman was handing out literature in support of the lease agreement. Says Herman, "The petition drive is very misleading, and avoids the overall benefit to the city." Greg says he's part of a group of loyal Giants' fans who've banned together and fanned out in their respective neighborhoods to try to counteract the petition drive.

☎ ☎ ☎

MARKET QUOTES: Don't throw out those used Levi's. There's a big market for them overseas—and also right here in Noe Valley.

Bob Jancula, proprietor of the clothing store Classy Sweats, on 24th near Castro, says he'll pay you \$10 for your used jeans in good condition. He'll then ship them to Europe and Japan, where the going rate for America's 501 blues is now approaching \$60.

In other markets, the price of a truffle from Cocolat just went up for Noe Valleyans. That's because the Noe Valley store (on 24th up the hill from Castro) recently closed its doors, and you'll now have to factor in the cost of driving to Fillmore or Montgomery streets if you need a Cocolat fix.

According to Cocolat President Jeff Titterington, "Our 10-year lease was up

in March, and the store would have needed a lot of work. Also, it was kind of off the beaten path, and sales were low there compared to our other stores. So we decided it was best to close."

Unlike Cocolat, Natural Resources Childbirth Center, offering both pre- and post-partum goods and services, is booming (due to baby-booming, no doubt).

Samantha Allen recently joined the partnership of Lisa Moresco and Nathalie Kelly, and the three women have not only added a classroom, but expanded their referral files, retail products, and library at Natural Resources' storefront at 4081 24th St. "We are also adding three new classes, a music group, a play group, and art," Samantha points out. Now all the place needs is a stroller garage.

Perhaps the most puzzling supply-and-demand item I have this month comes from Bruce Taylor, who runs the rather famous San Francisco Mystery Bookstore at 24th and Diamond. Asked what his most requested mystery was, he responded: *Post-Mortem*, a 1990 thriller by Patricia D. Cornwell about a female medical examiner who's on the trail of a brutal serial killer.

"Unfortunately, however," says Bruce, "I have none to sell, because the book is out of print, and used ones are hard to come by. With such a demand, you'd think the publishing house would put out another edition, but nope... you go figure it out." Okay, Bruce, I'll get back to you on that one.

☎ ☎ ☎

HURRY UP and check out the photo display now on the wall of What's for Dessert, on Church near 27th Street. Dolores Street resident Sheldon Ramsdell (who was a co-founder in 1967 of Vietnam Veterans Against the War) is exhibiting seven black-and-white portraits of some celebrities who have posed for him, including Joel Gray, Bette Midler, and Abbie Hoffman.

Also, as the designated mural reviewer for the *Noe Valley Voice*, I will be attending a reception at the Courtyard Cafe on Thursday, Feb. 4, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., honoring the artist who's just completed a panoramic mural on all four walls of the cafe's dining room. The creator of this 360-degree view has an equally panoramic name: Tom Schwabenlander.

See you there. □

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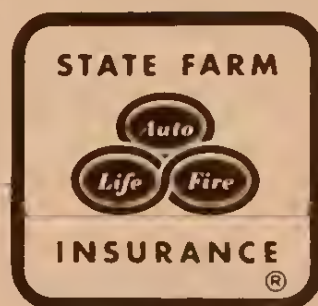
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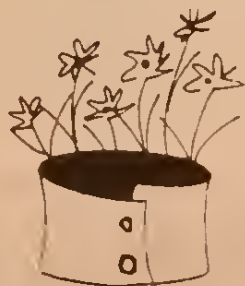


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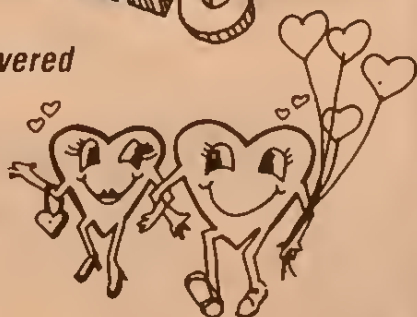
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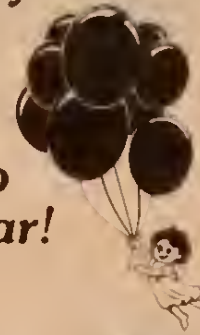
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By Stephanie Levin-Gervasi

Zachary John Deutsch-Gross

According to his parents, Fair Oaks Street residents Nancy Deutsch and Richard Gross, Zachary John Deutsch-Gross was in no rush to make his entrance into the world.

Zachary treated his mom to 36 hours of what is now affectionately known as the "lahor from hell," before arriving triumphantly on Dec. 18, 1991, at 1:20 p.m., weighing 6 pounds, 5 ounces.

But perhaps Zachary was dawdling in imitation of his parents. Like a great many Noe Valley couples, Nancy and Richard had waited until later in life to have a child.

"I never believed in the biological time-clock theory," contends Nancy. "But around age 35 it started ticking. Rationally, I kept procrastinating, but at 38 my heart said do it."

Now that the feat has been accomplished, "every moment with Zachary is precious—his smile, laughter, and yes, even his 5:30 a.m. wake-up call," says Richard, 40. And both parents are full-time mother-and-father, sharing responsibilities 50-50.

Nancy, who teaches creative writing to low-income seniors through the non-profit Tenants and Owners Development Corporation, and Richard, a consultant in the field of low-income housing, met 18 years ago while working on a political campaign in Madison, Wis.

"Having Zachary has reunited us with our political roots," maintains Richard.



Nancy Deutsch and Richard Gross, with baby Zack. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

"Our concerns about issues such as the environment and safety have shifted back into activism."

Nancy concurs. "Parenthood, and the

juggling of roles it requires, has deepened my commitment to feminism, and please, let's not forget about [seeking a cure for] sleep deprivation!" she laughs.

Since Zachary's arrival, finding the time to write has been a constant challenge. After his birth, Nancy joined a journal-writing group for new moms. So as not to feel left out, Richard organized a 'fathers' group. "We don't write, we talk," he says.

And with a Sagittarius son who likes to ham it up, there's lots to talk and write about. His parents say Zachary has inherited Nancy's sense of drama and Richard's musical talents, and "he loves crowds," says Nancy. "He doesn't understand stranger anxiety, and he has Richard's energetic personality. However, he looks like me," she notes.

These days, Zachary is busy discovering the world on foot. He took his first steps on Thanksgiving Day—not only in front of the turkey, but in view of the entire family and a video camera.

Even though Nancy and Richard now accept that "we have less in common with friends who don't have children, and 99 percent of our time revolves around Zack," they couldn't be happier to have embarked on this new journey.

"Parenting is all encompassing," says Richard, "but it's an experience no one should miss. It's too valuable." □

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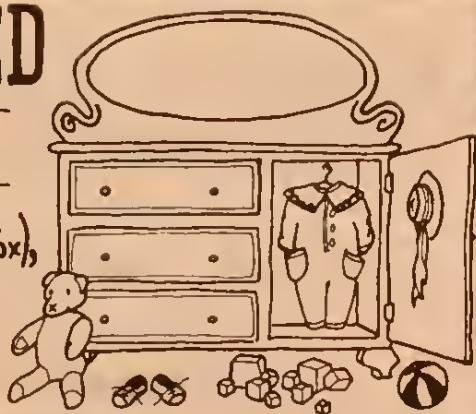


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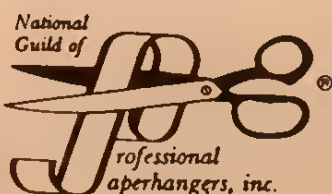
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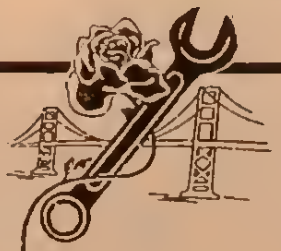
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Adult Fiction

• *Comrade Charlie*, the latest in Brian Freemantle's Charlie Muffin spy series, finds Charlie the intended victim of Natalia Fedova, his former Russian lover.

• *The Man Who Was Late*, by Louis Begley, depicts the last two years in the exemplary life of a self-made man who emigrated to America after World War II.

• A thriller with an insider's point of view, *Mitigating Circumstances*, by former police investigator Nancy Rosenberg, explores the complex relationship between cop and criminal.

• Set in turn-of-the-century New Orleans, *Storyville*, by Lois Battle, contrasts the lives of two women—one a well-to-do suffragette, the other a prostitute.

Adult Non-Fiction

• *The Best Medicine*, by Robert Arnot, M.D., is a consumer-oriented guide—arranged by operation and disease—to the best hospitals, treatments, and diagnostic tools for major ailments.

• *May All Be Fed*, by John Robbins, author of *Diet for a New America*, presents more tips and recipes for a disease-free life.

• *The San Francisco Thrift and Wisdom Almanac*, edited by Walter Biller, contains listings and descriptions of San Francisco's thrift shops, libraries, bookstores, and small hotels.

• *The Trunk Murderess*, by Jana Bommersbach, reveals the facts behind the sensational trial of Winnie Judd for the 1931 murder and dismembering of her two best friends.

• In *Victorian Gingerbread*, craftsmen Patrick Spielman and James Reidle give detailed instructions for the recreation of brackets, trim, and trellises from the Victorian era.

Children's Fiction

• In Henry Schwartz's *Albert Goes Hollywood*, the problem is: how to pay for the huge quantity of food required by Liz's pet dinosaur, Albert. The solution: Albert's new career as a movie star! (For ages 4–6.)

• In *Homebody*, by Joyce McDonald, a cat who remains loyal to her deserted house is rewarded by the kindness and caring of the new family that eventually moves in. (Ages 5–7.)

• Mouse shares her artwork with Bear, Squirrel, and Porcupine in *Little Mouse's Painting*, by Diane Wolkstein. As a result of her sharing, Mouse comes to see a connection between her creativity and her fond feelings for her friends. (Ages 5–8.)

• In *Seven Blind Mice*, author-illustrator Ed Young uses beautiful colors and images to tell the traditional Indian fable about the interplay between seeing parts of an object and seeing the whole object. (Ages 5–8.)

• Henry and his family chase away the "February cranks" and the "winter grumples" by creating a castle in their basement, in *Henry and Mudge and the Long Weekend*, by Cynthia Rylant. (Ages 6–8.)

• In *Sami and the Time of the Troubles*, by Florence Parry Heide, 10-year-old Sami and his family live and hide in Beirut, Lebanon, enjoying outings on occasional "quiet days" and wondering what their future will bring. (Ages 8–10.)

• You can get a feel for what San Francisco was like the first few days after the 1906 Earthquake and Fire if you read *Earthquake at Dawn*, by Kristiana Gregory. (Ages 10 and up.)

• Who stole the mummy from the library? And why has Althea disappeared? Althea and her brother Phineas cleverly solve these mysteries in *The Vandemark Mummy*, by Cynthia Voigt. (Ages 10 and up.)



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DEEP RELAXATION WORKSHOP. Learn how to use deep relaxation in creative ways to release physical and mental tension and patterns of stress. Class will include extended deep relaxation visualization, breathing practices, and a short meditation. Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m. \$5 Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 821-1117.

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WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUPS: 10-week dysfunctional family issues group meets Monday evenings. Ongoing women's group meets Tuesday evenings on Church Street. Facilitated by Maire Farrington, M.F.C.C., 255-0902.

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MAKING REAL PROGRESS in Spiritual Life. The spiritual path is slippery and subtle; sometimes years of practice can leave one feeling that little has been accomplished. This talk will help students develop their own method and approach to steady growth. Friday, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m., \$5. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 821-1117.

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MEDITATION WORKSHOP. This is a practical workshop that will enable students to begin earnest meditation on their own. A clear understanding of what meditation is, how it works, and how to make it an enjoyable daily experience will be presented. Suitable for both beginners and experienced meditators. Tuesday, Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. \$5. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 821-1117.

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NEW IMPROVED NOE'S NEST bed and breakfast. Unit A: private entrance, private bath, kitchenette, queen bed. Cute and cozy. Unit B: view, private bath, deck, fireplace, hot tub, queen bed. Unit C: ultra-view, private bath, steam room, parlor, king bed, fireplace and deck. All with cable and VCR. Masseuse and daycare available. Contact Sheila, 821-0751.

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SPIRITUAL READINGS by Wayne Avilla. What is most important for you now? Are you able to remain flexible and adaptive to the many unexpected happenings life can bring? In spite of materiality, is doubt limiting what you can do and he this lifetime? I provide a 1½-hour counseling and healing utilizing the sacred symbol of the rose and an aura reading, including information from the chakras. The atmosphere is comfortable, relaxed, amused, and in my country home in Noe Valley. Charge is \$39 by appointment only, 824-3542. Graduate Psychic Horizons. Ordained minister, Church of Natural Grace.

PET TENDERS Reliable love and care for your pets, plants, and home while you're away. References on request. Bonded. Scott, 431-2460.

VISITING FAMILY AND FRIENDS will enjoy the lovely Noe Valley home, gracious hostess, and scrumptious breakfasts at Liz's Bed and Breakfast. 648-2515.

CUSTOM DRAPES, fabric shades, custom quilting, bedspreads, comforters, bed accessories, slipcovers, headboard slipcovers, any type of custom quilting services, your design or ours. Call Doris, 337-9003.

CLEANINGHOUSE. Home, office, apartment and apartment building maintenance cleaning. Regular, one-time. Moving in, moving out? Spring cleaning! Roger Miller, 664-0513. References.

POETRY WANTED: The *Noe Valley Voice* welcomes submissions of poetry related to neighborhood themes, people, or places. Payment upon publication. Send submissions with SASE (and a phone number, please) to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

MASSAGE for people who care about themselves. Great for pain release and stress reduction. Nurturing and therapeutic. Swedish, shiatsu, deep tissue. Call Rose, C.M.P. 641-5209.

How to Use Voice Class Ads

The rate for classified advertising in the *Noe Valley Voice* is 25¢ a word. Just type or print your copy, multiply the number of words by 25¢ (we trust you), enclose a check or money order for the full amount, and mail it to us by the 15th of the month preceding the month of issue.

Please let us know whether your ad is a renewal from a previous issue. (But be sure to give us the full ad copy, in any case.)

Recession Discount: The *Voice* comes out 10 times a year (we don't publish in January and August). If you decide to place the same class ad in 10 issues (a year's worth), you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. Just deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

To get your ad in the March 1993 issue (appearing in Downtown Noe Valley on Wednesday, March 3), please mail your ad and check—made payable to the *Noe Valley Voice*—so that we receive it by Feb. 15, 1993. Our address is 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Sorry, but we are unable to accept phone or drop-in orders.

Class advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of the ad (not to exceed one line of type) will be highlighted in all caps. Also, receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. □



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CALENDAR

FEB. 1-13: "One Decade" is an exhibit of PAINTINGS by Nanci Reese. Mon.-Sat., noon-5 pm. Gallery Sanchez, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

FEB. 2, 9 & 23: Preschoolers will enjoy the Noe Valley Library's STORY TIME. 10 am. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

FEB. 2, 9, 16 & 23: A SUPPORT GROUP for single parents features the timely topics "How to Talk to Your Teen About Sex and STOs" (Feb. 2), "Eliminating the Need for Gang Participation" (Feb. 9), "Self-esteem" (Feb. 16), and "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren" (Feb. 23). 6:30 pm. Room 115, Everett Middle School, 450 Church St. 469-4795.

FEBRUARY 1993

FEB. 2-14: A display of celebrity PHOTOS by Oloros Street resident Sheldon Ramsdell continues at What's for Dessert, open Tuesday through Sunday. 1497 Church St. 550-7465.

FEB. 3: Mae Silver gives a SLIDE TALK on the history of Rancho San Miguel from Mexican days to the present. 7 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

FEB. 3, 10, 17 & 24: Parents are invited to bring their infants and toddlers to the ongoing LAPSITS at the Noe Valley Library. 7 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

FEB. 4: San Francisco Performances presents a "Concert with Conversation," featuring percussionist/composer MAX ROACH. 5:30-6:30 pm. San Francisco Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

FEB. 4: Carol Queen provides advice and support for male VALENTINE SHOPPERS at "Erotic Shopping 101: Men's Night." 8-10 pm. Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia St. 974-8980.

FEB. 4: Tom Schwabenlander's four-panel panoramic MURAL will be unveiled at a reception for the artist. 6:30-8:30 pm. Courtyard Cafe, 3913 24th St. 282-0344.

FEB. 4-6 & 11-13: The Bread and Butter series of FODTWORK/Dancers' Group presents Erica Essner in "The Trials of Jane Doe." 8:30 pm. 3221 22nd St. 824-5044.

FEB. 4-14: BRAVA! for Women in the Arts' fifth annual "Taking Shape" series offers new works from women who write and perform drama, dance, music, and multimedia. Thurs.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. 2180 Bryant St. 641-7657.

FEB. 4, 11, 18 & 25: KAIROS Support for Caregivers offers a drop-in introductory session for professional and non-professional caregivers. 7:30-9 pm. 114 Douglass St. Call 861-0877 to register.

FEB. 5: Indulge yourself at the Noe Valley Nursery School's third annual "Winter Elegance Champagne and DESSERT TASTING." 8 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2278.

FEB. 5: The local BAND Daddy Don't Go performs prior to Sisler Psychic and Pansy Division. 10 pm. The Bottom of the Hill, 1233 17th St. 626-4455.

FEB. 5-11: *Last Call at Maud's*, a DOCUMENTARY about the California lesbian scene from WWII through 1989, premieres at the Castro Theater. Daily, 7 & 9 pm; Sat., Sun. & Wed., 1, 3 & 5 pm. 429 Castro St. 621-6120.

FEB. 6: St. Paul's Elementary School hosts its third annual CRAB FEAST dinner. 6:45 pm. 1660 Church St. Call 648-2055 for tickets; preregistration required.

FEB. 6: The Noe Valley Music Series presents the GLENN CRONKHITE Quartet, featuring bassist Mel Graves. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.



Last Call at Maud's, a documentary film tour of California's lesbian bar scene from World War II to the present, will be shown at the Castro Theater Feb. 5-11.

FEB. 6: Kemit Amenophis leads a MASK-MAKING workshop for all ages, inspired by West African designs. 1 pm. Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way. 554-9600.

FEB. 6: Natural Resources offers an infant and child CPR CLASS for parents. 4-7 pm. 4081 24th St. 550-2611.

FEB. 7: "Partners in Performance" features S.F. Community Music Center faculty performing with their students to BENEFIT the school's scholarship fund. 4 pm. 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

FEB. 7: Theatre Artaud presents a benefit for PROJECT INFORM, an HIV information clearinghouse, which will highlight music and dance, as well as the spoken word. 7 pm. 450 Florida St. 621-7797.

FEB. 8: The Diamond Senior Center's Valentine's DANCE will include lunch and a prize raffle. Noon-3 pm. 117 Diamond St. 863-3507.

FEB. 9: Political activist and WRITER Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz reads from her new book, *The Issue Is Power: Essays on Women, Jews, Violence and Resistance*. 8 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. B21-4675.

FEB. 10: Former BLACK PANTHER leader Elaine Brown reads from her autobiography, *A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story*. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 2B2-9246.

FEB. 11: Natalie Devora and other contributors to a journal for African-American lesbians will read NEW WRKS in "An Evening with a Aché." 8 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4675.

FEB. 11: CRIME PREVENTION specialist Barbara Lynn discusses SAFE, a citywide neighborhood watch group organization, at the Friends of Noe Valley meeting. 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 863-5563.

FEB. 13: The Randall Museum's celebration of Black History Month includes a workshop in SHAOOW BOXES with Patty Yancey. 1 pm. 199 Museum Way. 554-9600.

FEB. 13: Jan Zobel conducts a one-day SEMINAR on "Basic Tax and Record-keeping Information for Self-Employed People," sponsored by the Options Institute. 10 am-4 pm. Call 821-1015 for location and to register.

FEB. 13: The original PMS female vocal trio sings jazz, pop, and blues. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

FEB. 14: The Noe Valley Ministry continues its CANTATE services of chanting, meditation, and prayer. 7 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

FEB. 14: Speakers from the San Francisco Couples Group will be featured at the monthly SUPPORT GROUP meeting of P-FLAG, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. 2-4 pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St. 921-8850.



The members of PMS will be happy to sing the blues (and jazz and pop) at the Noe Valley Music Series on Feb. 13.

FEB. 14-16: Artist Guy Colwell's OPEN STUDIO SHOW, in an R.V., includes his traditional social surrealism, plus recent landscape and figurative work. Noon-6 pm. Dodge Flair Motor Home parked at Twin Peaks downtown overlook. 916-885-6042.

FEB. 16: FILMS for preschoolers will be shown at 10 and 11 am; a screening for children 6 and older begins at 3:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

FEB. 17 & 24: California Joe, aka COWBOY POET/humorist Stevenson Phillips, hosts and entertains with poets and balladeers. 8:30 pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St. 641-0235.

FEB. 18-28: In "Real Voices," TALE SPINNERS Theater performs monologues and scenes by writers in the Oral History Playwrights Project. Thurs.-Sun., 8 pm. The Marsh, 96B Valencia St. 641-0235.

FEB. 19: Sin Sirocco and Oanielle Willis offer an evening of "acid-tongued POETRY and prose shot from the hip." 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246.

FEB. 19: SAXOPHONE POETS Robert Haven and Lewis Jordan perform in the "In a Oog's Ear" series presented by Dogeared Books. 8 pm. 1173 Valencia St. 641-8403.

FEB. 19: Proceeds from an ORGAN RECITAL by Charles Rus, including music by Bach, Brühns, and Brahms, will go toward the church's pipe organ restoration fund. 8 pm. Holy Innocents Episcopal Church, 455 Fair Oaks St. 824-5142.

FEB. 20: The Noe Valley Music Series honors Black History Month with a solo evening of poetry and music by GIL SCOTT-HERON. 7:30 & 9:30 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

FEB. 20: A public meeting to discuss seismic upgrading of FIRE STATION 24 at 100 Hoffman Ave. will be held in the Alvarado School Cafeteria. 10 am. 625 Douglass St. (Note: The meeting will be preceded by a tour of the firehouse, 9-9:45 am.) 695-5695.

FEB. 20: Certified financial planner Fern Alix discusses "TAXATION and Your Child," including information about childcare credits and saving for college education. 11 am-1 pm. Natural Resources, 4081 24th St. 550-2611.

FEB. 21: The Lesbian Visibility Task Force, a group that works to promote fair representation of lesbians in the media, holds its regular third-Sunday-of-the-month MEETING at GLAAD (Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation). 7 pm. 514 Castro St. 861-4588.

FEB. 21: S.F. Community Music Center's students under 10 and seniors team up for a CONCERT of works by Liszt, Debussy, Chopin, and Bartok called "The Young and the Seasoned." 4 pm. 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

FEB. 23-MARCH 27: Galeria de la Raza offers "El Sabor," a mixed-media group ART EXHIBITION about food and culture. Tues.-Sat., noon-6 pm. Reception Feb. 27, 4-7 pm. 2B57 24th St. 826-B009.

FEB. 26: Mexico City author ALBERTO RUY SANCHEZ reads from his Villarrutia Prize-winning novel *Mogador (Los Nombres del Aire)*. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246.

FEB. 26: The TURKISH MUSIC ensemble Yasha features Lalif Bolat and Vince Delgado. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

FEB. 27: FOLK LEGENOS Ramblin' Jack Elliott and John Herald perform a solo/duo concert. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

FEB. 27: Psychic Horizons' free PSYCHIC HEALING FAIR is scheduled for 2-4 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 346-7906.

FEB. 28: The Noe Valley CHAMBER MUSIC Series features pianist Ava Soiter, violinist Kristina Anderson, and cellist Daniel Reiler, performing works by Dvorak, Martinu, and Shostakovich. 2 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 2B2-2317.

MARCH 6: Alvarado School offers secondhand treasures at a RUMMAGE SALE and silent auction. 10 am-4 pm. 625 Douglass St. 695-5695.

ZIPPY

"WARNING: MAY ANGER TOBACCO LOBBY"

Bill Griffith



The Scoop on CALENDAR

Please send calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding the month of issue to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority. Note: The next issue will appear Wednesday, March 3, and will cover calendar events for the month of March. The editorial deadline is Feb. 15, 1993.